



Riot erupts in Iranian city

TEHRAN (R) — Riots erupted in the Iranian city of Qazvin on Wednesday after parliament voted down a bill to turn it into a province, residents said. "People have set fires on fire in the streets. Windows of banks and government buildings are smashed," said a man at a Qazvin hotel reached by telephone. "I can hear shooting. It's very chaotic. People have gathered in streets and mosques and there are clashes in the streets. The police cannot do anything," he told Reuters from the city 150 kilometres northwest of Tehran. Parliament rejected a call to create a new province with the city of Qazvin as the regional capital. The decision came despite the backing of President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani for the government proposal after he had promised the people in the central Iranian city their demands would be met. As soon as the news reached the city, demonstrators gathered in front of the home of the city's religious leader urging him to pressure parliament to reconsider its ruling, IRNA said. The government proposal to create a new province with Qazvin, 130 kilometres of here, as the capital was narrowly defeated when 105 deputies voted against the motion, 103 for and 23 abstentions.

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جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية والرأي

Bosnian Serbs to hold referendum

SARAJEVO (R) — The Bosnian Serbs' self-declared assembly voted on Wednesday to hold a referendum on the latest international peace plan for Bosnia. They also in a separate vote repeated their rejection of the plan to divide Bosnia roughly evenly between them and their Muslim-Croat enemies. A statement issued from the Serbs' self-declared capital in Pale and distributed by the Bosnian Serb news agency SRNA said the plan "has been deliberately compiled in such a way as to be unacceptable for the Serb side." The 61-member Serb assembly has rejected the plan twice before (see inside), but decided to consider it again under heavy pressure from Serbia and Russia to accept the proposal. Most Serbs interviewed on the street said they strongly opposed the peace proposals, and complained bitterly that Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, who has demanded Bosnian Serbs accept the plan, had betrayed them.

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King returns home after historic step

'Washington Declaration a move towards peace and Jordan's causes'

His Majesty flies over Jerusalem in 'very emotional experience'

By Aysan Al Safadi

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein returned home from London Wednesday after a historic visit to the United States where he signed the Washington Declaration with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and announced an end to the state of war between Jordan and the Jewish state.

King Hussein, who flew over Israel and the occupied West Bank including Jerusalem on his way home, said signing a peace treaty with Israel was not a subject of negotiations at this point, stressing that Jordan and

Israel were addressing in their current talks the issues on the common agenda signed in Washington Sept. 14.

The King told reporters at the airport that the recent developments on the Jordanian-Israeli track of the negotiations constituted a step towards the "dear goal" of bringing about a just and comprehensive peace to the area as well as addressing the "causes of this country and the needs of its people" who put up with more than anybody else put up with in the decades of conflict in the region.

"I cannot describe my feelings at those moments after a long absence (from Jerusalem)," the King said in response to a question on how he felt flying over the Holy City on board a civilian Jordanian aircraft for the first time in 46 years.

"I am very very moved and very very touched. It was a very emotional experience," said the King, whose plane was escorted by eight military jets after entering the Jordanian airspace.

When he first entered Israeli airspace Mr. Rabin got on the radio to welcome the Monarch, telling him that the Washington Declaration got an overwhelming vote of approval in the Israeli parliament on Wednesday (see separate story).

"Your Majesty, welcome to Israel, even though in the air," Mr. Rabin said.

The King responded: "Prime minister, it is wonderful to hear you and I am very, very happy to learn from you of the welcome that the Washington Declaration has received in the Knesset."

The two leaders spoke about the peace process for a few minutes before the King continued his flight to Amman from London.

The King circled over the Haram Al Sharif Complex, which houses Al Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock, the third holiest sites in Islam.

Israel closed its airspace to all other flights and grounded any planes trying to take off for the approximately 25 minutes it took the King to transit in the unprecedented

flight.

The symbolic flight was arranged when King Hussein and Mr. Rabin met in Washington July 25, an Israeli statement said. It was kept secret for security reasons.

King Hussein told reporters in Amman after arrival: "I pray to God that the issue



Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor alight from the plane on Wednesday upon their return home after visits to Washington and London (Photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)

Work starts on crossing; Knesset approves declaration

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter with agency dispatches

JORDANIAN and Israeli teams on Wednesday started work on a border crossing for tourists near Aqaba and Eilat after agreement was reached on the location in two days of talks.

As bulldozers from both sides went to work at the site, some 3.5 kilometres north of the two Red Sea ports, the Israeli parliament (Knesset) endorsed the Washington Declaration that His Majesty King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin signed in Washington, ending a 46-year state of war between Jordan and the Jewish state.

The Knesset voted 91-3 in favour of the declaration with two abstentions. The rest of the members of the 120-member legislature were absent.

Mr. Rabin, bowing to demands by hardline and religious parties, included in his prepared address text strong assurances that the peace deal would not compromise Israel's Jerusalem policy.

Israel calls occupied East Arab Jerusalem part of its "united capital." The Washington Declaration recognises Jordan's historic role as guardian of Muslim holy sites in Jerusalem.

Mr. Rabin told parliament

Israel would retain sovereignty.

"The government is determined that Jerusalem is not a subject for bargaining," he said.

"I insist that in this declaration there is no concession on Jerusalem, which cannot be subject to negotiations," Mr. Rabin told the Knesset before the vote.

"Construction in greater Jerusalem will continue in the years to come," he added.

The reference to Jerusalem in the declaration "created a stir for nothing because it only reflected reality," Mr. Rabin said.

"For 27 years the Jordanians have played a role in the management of the Muslim holy sites in Jerusalem," he said.

Mr. Rabin said Israel will retain control over Jewish religious sites, particularly the western wall.

"During negotiations on the final status we will consult all Jewish religious institutions, the ministry of religious affairs and the chief rabbinate," he said.

Mr. Rabin told Knesset members King Hussein would not have signed the declaration if Israel and the PLO had not already concluded the Sept. 13, 1993 accord to pave the way for limited Palestinian autonomy.

He added that there was no secret deal within the declaration.

"The end of the state of belligerence announced in this declaration is an interim step toward the signing of a complete peace treaty," he said. "It is clear that the state of war with Jordan is finished."

The leader of the right-wing opposition Likud, Benjamin Netanyahu, lent his support to the declaration.

The new border terminal in the south is to be inaugurated Monday by King Hussein. Mr. Rabin and visiting U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher. Mr. Christopher is also expected to make the first direct telephone call between the two countries (see page 2).

The crossing point initially will be open only to foreign tourists.

Jordan on Tuesday had objected to the site, saying that it would prejudice the Kingdom's claim to land on the frontier currently farmed by an Israeli agricultural collective.

Israeli officials said that the Jordanian team changed its stance on Wednesday after being reassured that the land claim was still open to negotiations.

Jordan also was assured that the site in the desert would be temporary.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan receives Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor upon their return home Wednesday (Photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)

Crown Prince: Arab and Islamic civilisation gathered strength from interacting with other world cultures

Transfer of knowledge and sabbaticals for research for officials essential for development

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said Wednesday that "one of the major reasons for the strength of Arab and Islamic civilisation is its openness to other cultures, taking from them, adding and developing and absorbing the movement of science and technology where it existed and extending them."

In a keynote address at the opening of "the Second Jordanian Science Week," the Crown Prince said that Jordan and the Arab and Islamic worlds were in need of the transfer of knowledge from outside as well as internal transfer of knowledge.

"Otherwise what we achieve in centres and institutions will add to our developmental burdens instead of alleviating them," he said.

Prince Hassan told the meeting, organised by the Jordanian Armed Forces in cooperation with the Higher Council for Science and Technology, that Jordan and the Arab World "should learn from the past and go towards the future and to learn to utilise resources to their full capacity."

Following are major excerpts of the Crown Prince's address:

"The convening of the Second Jordanian Science Week comes as a continuation of the first week held one year ago. We had wanted the first week to act as a developmental activity embodying the political will of the Jordanian state to rely on science and technology as a major cornerstone of our development drive as well as an entry

of a serious grasp of the field capacities that we can rely on in our move towards the exploitation of the elements of our own resources in the developmental effort.

You are all aware that development by definition and in implementation implies comprehensiveness. It is not possible to continue the discussion of sectorial development without an overall framework through which the balance between capabilities and needs can be clarified.

What mostly preoccupies the political elite and developmental decision-makers in the countries of the Third World is the means to move society from backwardness to progressiveness, with all that signifies in theoretical, procedural and field requirements.

In the immensity of this preoccupation it slips the mind that the concept of development and the ways to achieve it is a dynamic and variable concept. We have seen this with clarity in the course of the last four decades and we have come to rely on the concept of human resources development, that is the process of expanding people's choices as adopted by various international institutions, foremost among them the United Nations Development Programme.

What remains is a controversial question on the extent of state interference in the implementation of development, especially in the light of global fluctuations, chief among which is the large-scale transformation, towards market economies and the patterns of free trade

and the increasing power of international regional institutions or the increase of the "global content," in the management of nations.

We must learn to utilise our resources and we cannot afford to be a dumping ground for unrequired material for the sake of the profit of a few. We can begin to prevent this: First by institutionalising our purchase procedure in a complementary and second by creating offset procedures — in other words, reinvesting profits in and for Jordan.

Let me make it very clear. We are not against entrepreneurs making a profit. We are, however, very much against the objective, being profit-making.

If objective conditions do not help us to visualise the capacity of the production of high technology in Jordan, the factors of our own strength open a wide scope for the use of science and technology inputs to enhance and increase the capacity and the competitive edge of economic sectors. In other words, there is no doubt that we can raise the level of Jordanian excellence wherever it is found, in any sector or institution, making it feasible where it is not yet available.

This definitely requires cohesive plans of action and a futuristic vision; whereas the perspective differs, their lines meet at a specific priority of national interests. This also requires institutional coordination, limiting the duplication of efforts and activities

and opening horizons for the practice of diligence and concern with innovation and constructive initiative.

It is easy for all those with vision to distinguish the direct impact of science and technology on the developmental process and its reflection on the evolution of societies. My direct query to this is: Till when will we keep talking of the achievements of the Korean example and the experience of Singapore, Taiwan and Malaysia and others in the technology field without putting to the test whether we can select a part from their experience suitable to our situation and put it into implementation?

We may be in need, more than ever, for comprehensive and profound evaluation programmes aimed at identifying the strengths in what we have achieved so we may build upon it.

Permit me to share with you some of the thoughts that I hope we may discuss with a team spirit and develop into formulae:

Firstly: Discussion of national policies and strategies for science and technology will remain wishes if there is no move to set a specific time frame for them. I think that small task forces should be formed in our related ministries and institutions with the responsibility of continuous communication and coordination with the Higher Council for Science and Technology.

Secondly: The accelerating developments we witness must force us to adopt a

Zaki: Jordan's stand is clear on Jerusalem

SANAA (R) — A senior Palestinian official said the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) would not be drawn into a dispute with Jordan over Jerusalem.

Abbas Zaki, member of the Central Committee of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's Fatah faction said Israel's "are trying to stir an inter-Arab battle (over Jerusalem) and we are not going to be drawn into it."

Mr. Zaki, in Sanaa for talks with Yemeni officials, told Reuters that a PLO delegation would visit Amman shortly for further coordination "with Jordanian brothers to ensure the Arab performance will be free from differences that can benefit the enemy."

The PLO has expressed concern to the United Nations over a clause in a declaration signed by Jordan and Israel in July that recognises a special role for King Hussein in Jerusalem's Muslim holy places.

Mr. Zaki said: "What we understood is that this (role) deals with religious jurisdiction and there is nothing new in this regard since Jordan is in charge of Aqwaq and the holy sites."

"Had this been the final stage of deciding to whom Jerusalem belongs, it would have been a different matter, but we are not in this final stage yet," Mr. Zaki said.

He added that "the enemy is trying to raise controversial issues to divide Palestinian and Arab ranks. This will not happen."

On Monday, Mr. Arafat called for immediate talks on the status of the Holy City, but this was rejected by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin as "demand to break the agreement"

47 deputies voice total support of King's moves

AMMAN (Petra) — Forty seven deputies in the 80-seat Lower House of Parliament on Wednesday expressed their total support and loyalty to His Majesty King Hussein's steps aimed at regaining Jordanian national rights in land and water and towards establishing just, durable and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

The expression of support was contained in cables the King received. One of the cables came from the National Action Front (NAF) grouping the following deputies: Sheikh Abdul Bagi Gammo, Nader Abu Sha'ar, Abdul Majeed Al Azzam, Mifteh Harashsheh, Khaled Ajameh, Hatem Ghazawi, Fawaz Zoubi, Farah Rabadi, Ahmad Qudrah, Hani Hijazin, Mifteh Lawzi, Rauf Sa'oud, Hashim Dabbas, Fawzi Toameh, Taha Hababbeh, Fayad Jarrar and Abdul Hadi Majali.

The 17 deputies supported the "honourable stand of His Majesty King Hussein through which wisdom and responsibility are revealed."

They pledged support for the Washington Declaration considering it "a first step towards achieving just and

honourable peace for future generations to accept and safeguard."

The 12 members of the Democratic Parliamentary Alliance (DPA) sent a similar cable of support in which they praised King Hussein's wise leadership and reaffirmed their faith in His Majesty's leadership and described the Monarch as "a lion holding the sword of challenge, supporting the Palestinian people and their cause and holding on firmly to the national rights of Jordan and holding high the banner of Arab Nation."

DPA members include Samir Kwar, Aref Batayneh, Ibrahim Shehdeh, Anwar Hadid, Ali Abu Ragheb, Saleh She'watah, Abed Mousa Nahar, Mimir Soubar, Sae'd Hayel Srour, Abdul Karim Kabarti, Hamad Abu Jamous and Saleh Irshaidat.

Deputy Jamal Khreisha, leader of the nine-member National Bloc, sent a cable of support pledging loyalty to King Hussein and expressing support for His Majesty's "brave and honourable stands aiming at securing Jordan's full rights in water and land and in safeguarding the

Islamic holy places in Jerusalem."


National Bloc members are: Abdul Ra'ouf Rawabdeh, Mohammad Thawabeh, Jamil Hishosh, Samih Al Farah and Fayad Jarrar.

King Hussein also received a cable of support from 12 independent members of Parliament in which they blessed His Majesty's moves aiming at protecting Jordan and its national rights. The deputies are: Abdul Razzak TUBEISHAT, Awad Khleifat, Nazeih Ammarin, Mohammad Abu Olaim, Mahmoud Hweimeh, Mohammad Dawoudieh, Abdul Majid Qutash, Samir Habashneh, Mohammad Huniet, Jamal Sarraireh and Jamal Hoshosh.

King Hussein also received cables of support and appreciation from heads of the refugee camps service committees in Jordan. The cables came from the committees of Hiteen, Irbid, Sukhneh, Souf, Jerash, Wihdat, Baqa'a, and Al Hussein camps.

They expressed their full support for His Majesty's steps that aim at "emphasising the issue of the refugees in Jordan and the protective role of the Hashemites in the holy places in Jerusalem."

We salute your genuine efforts for implementing a Just and Lasting Peace. May "Normality and Humanity" prevail soon in all our region.



WELCOME HOME YOUR MAJESTIES

Sabri Farah & Family

USAID helps Jordan's postpartum project

AMMAN (J.T.) — An agreement between the government of Jordan and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) granting Jordan an initial \$4 million out of a total of \$11 million for a five-year comprehensive postpartum project was signed in the ministry of planning Wednesday by U.S. Ambassador Wesley Egan, USAID Acting Director William D. McKinney and Minister of Planning Hisham Khatib.

The five-year project seeks to improve mother and child care services and reduce unwanted fertility, a U.S. Information Service press release said.

Postpartum is the 40-day period which immediately follows child delivery. The project will establish postpartum centres throughout the Kingdom in selected hospitals of the Ministry of Health, the Royal Medical Service and in universities where pregnant women will come for regular check-ups from pregnancy through delivery, and for mother and child-care services after giving birth and through the postpartum period.

The project will address the special needs of mothers during this critical period and there will be strong emphasis on breast-feeding and on identification and care of high-risk pregnancies.

Services offered will include a constellation of related care before, during and after child birth; a specially designed programme for mother and child care during the postpartum period; information and services on birth spacing; and check ups for infants at the same time and in the same place so services are as convenient as possible for mothers and their children. The project will benefit an estimated 350,000 mothers and children under one year of age in Jordan, the press release said.

In addition to the postpartum centres, the project will support mother and child care services offered by the Soldier's Family Welfare Society in Zarqa.



KNESSET DEBATE: Israeli Premier Yitzhak Rabin (right) and his Foreign Minister Shimon Peres laugh, reacting to opposition and Likud party leader Benjamin Netanyahu during the Knesset debate Wednesday on the Israeli-Jordanian agreement (see page one) (AFP photo)

Politicians, reformers lock horns in power struggle in autonomy

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Less than two months after the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) set up headquarters in Gaza and Jericho, the first signs of power struggle between traditional politicians and reformers are surfacing.

Reports from the self-rule areas indicate that a power struggle between members of the PNA are taking both in the farming communities of Jericho and the transport sector in Gaza and over the treatment of the Palestinian press.

While the forced closure of the Al Nahar daily, one of only two daily newspapers in the self-rule and occupied areas, has received some international press coverage, other disputes have received almost no attention.

One of the most prominent debates between the PNA and local residents is a farmers dispute in Jericho over equitable water distribution which culminated in the dismissal this week of the deputy assistant to the PNA in Jericho district, Munther Irshaid, by PNA President Yasser Arafat.

Mr. Irshaid had started a more equitable water sharing programme for residents, farmers and businesses in Jericho by limiting water in-

take of two major water consumers in the town. Upon the request of local residents Mr. Irshaid began a new water channelling programme in Jericho in his capacity as deputy assistant to the local government.

When Mr. Irshaid sought to involve members of the Palestinian police force in the scheme, Haj Ismail, head of the security forces in Jericho, withdrew police support for the re-channelling of water.

The two main water consumers, the Muslimani brothers, a landowning family which runs farms and the Qumratal Restaurant received "favourable" treatment from the Israeli authorities when they still ruled Jericho, according to Jericho town residents.

The Qumratal Restaurant was consuming two inches of water while legally it was only allotted 1/2 an inch. Mr. Irshaid turned down the taps on the Muslimani farms and the Qumratal restaurant down. The Muslimanis appealed to a local judge, who upheld Mr. Irshaid's decision as legal. Then the Palestinian minister of justice, Gaza-based Fathi Abu Midein, overturned the judge's decision and fired the judge.

PNA Minister for Local Affairs Saeb Erekat stepped in to maintain the status quo.

When Mr. Irshaid and town residents protested the firing of the judge, Mr. Irshaid was unceremoniously fired on the order of Mr. Arafat.

Now residents say the PNA also favours the Muslimani brothers and the owners of the Qumratal Restaurant over other local residents because the two now cater to the PNA.

"They are always with whoever is in power. The problem is that every new power or authority that comes in uses the same methods and allies itself to the same kinds of folk which are basically un-democratic and unfair to the people," said Abu Jamal, a Jericho businessman and a sympathiser of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

But favoritism and nepotism are not limited to the Jericho self-rule enclave. In the Gaza town of Khan Younis, the town's Attorney General Khaled Qudwah, a relative of Mr. Arafat, created a scandal in late July when he granted 80 taxis in Khan Younis permission to transport Gaza workers to Jerusalem.

According to an agreement between the PNA and the Israeli authorities 100 taxis from Gaza would receive permits to travel from Gaza to Jerusalem daily to transport Gaza labourers who work in

Israel.

When Mr. Qudwah managed to procure 80 of the 100 even permits for taxis from Khan Younis, the rest of the taxi offices and drivers in Gaza protested.

"It is unthinkable that all of Gaza gets only 20 permits while Khan Younis taxi offices get 80," Naïem Handoka told the Jordan Times during a telephone interview from Gaza Wednesday.

"This is favoritism and nepotism of the worst kind," said Mr. Handoka, the owner of the Enad Tours taxi, the most prominent taxi service in Gaza City.

Popular opinion been unable to overturn the unpopular PNA decisions this far.

PNA Minister of Information and Culture Yasser Abed Rabbo was agitated about the closure order against Al Nahar newspaper, according to the spokesman of FIDA in Amman, its political party Mr. Abed Rabbo heads.

The minister of information was not consulted nor informed about the closure order against Al Nahar.

When he found out he protested to the PNA president, said the Amman-based spokesman of FIDA, Saïeh Raafat. Protests against the order from local and international organisations have been to no avail.

CRYSTAL CLEAR FACTS

BY ZIAD DAJANI

No one can argue the aesthetic beauty that delicate crystal formations possess. And if there are medicinal, emotional and intellectual properties to be gained from them, so much the better. The bonus: "crystals and gemstones work even if you don't believe in them," says author and crystal expert Gari Gold in her book "Crystal Energy."

The attraction to crystal is not new. Legends and folklore around gems date back to the beginning of time when tales of the ancient lost continent of Atlantis foretold the ability of crystals to generate power over entire cities. These books of ages have, in fact, been used for many purposes — healing, protecting, gaining wisdom, even maintaining beauty. (Cleopatra is said to have worn a bejewelled headband and belt of hematite to keep her youthful looks and great face intact).

Enter the New Age — the Age of Aquarius. The

A BRIEF GUIDE TO GEMSTONES

Here is a simple guide to shopping crystals and gemstones for total health and beauty.

AMETHYST: For protection and spiritual attainment. It reduces mental tension and induces dream.

QUARTZ: Lifts the spirit and calms the nerves. Aids in communication.

BLOODSTONE: For pain and sadness. It is good for ridding maladies without really confronting them.

CARNELIAN: A grounding stone. It firmly anchors ideas and inspiration, alleviates absent-mindedness and mental confusion. It is good for circulation.

CITRINE: The storehouse of your personal power. Strengthens self-confidence, will, and creative power.

DIAMONDS: A symbol of constancy and serenity.

EMERALD: A heart stone. Enhances healing and balancing.

GARNET: Inspires love and devotion. Stimulates

Arafat rivals seize Fateh office in Lebanon

SIDON (AP) — Armed Palestinian dissidents, firing in the air, seized the two main offices of Yasser Arafat's main Fateh faction in Lebanon's largest refugee camp during the night, police reported Wednesday.

A police statement said the men, followers of dissident leader Colonel Munir Makdah, stormed the offices in the Ain Al Hilweh shantytown on the outskirts of this southern port city shortly before midnight (2100 GMT Tuesday).

Arafat loyalists in the building surrendered without a fight and no casualties were reported.

The Lebanese army, which controls all the entrances into 'Ein Al Hilweh, did not intervene, police reported.

"We're clipping Arafat's wings," said Col. Makdah, who was the Fateh guerrilla commander in the camp until he rebelled against the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman for signing a

peace accord with Israel Sept. 13, 1993.

Police said the seizures weakened the PLO's grip on 'Ain Al Hilweh, a long-time Arafat power base. Fateh is the PLO's largest faction.

Col. Makdah told reporters the bloodless takeover was coordinated with 10 anti-Arafat Palestinian factions backed by Syria. These groups oppose the peace accord.

The dissident leader said he has ordered Arafat loyalists to stop carrying weapons or to patrol the camp, which has a population of about 60,000.

It is the largest of 13 camps in Lebanon which house some 200,000 Palestinian refugees registered with the United Nations. Another 200,000 Palestinians live outside the camps.

Col. Makdah's followers have been scrapping with Arafat supporters since September. The office seizures indicated that Col.

Makdah and the Syrian-backed hardliners have decided to wrest control of the refugee camps in south Lebanon.

It was not immediately clear whether the Fateh fighters will heed Col. Makdah's orders. If they do, Col. Makdah's forces are likely to try to seize control of three other camps around Tyre south of Sidon.

The takeover by the dissidents is not likely to have a serious impact on Mr. Arafat's efforts to establish self-rule in the Gaza Strip and Jericho.

Most of his hard-core fighters have been withdrawn from South Lebanon to undergo training to join his Palestinian police force.

Col. Makdah also announced that his men have detained three people who allegedly issued a statement July 22 indirectly claiming responsibility for two bombings in Latin America last

month on behalf of a supposedly Muslim fundamentalist group called Ansarallah.

One hundred people were killed in Buenos Aires, Argentina, July 18 when a car-bomb exploded outside a Jewish centre. Another 21 people were slain in the bombing of a Panamanian airliner the following day.

Col. Makdah said the three men were Arafat loyalists from Fateh and had been ordered "to issue the statement... by Arafat's people in Gaza."

He said he may hand over the men to Lebanese authorities after they had been interrogated.

It was not clear why Col. Makdah detained the men. But it could be that he acted on instructions from Damascus to bolster the contention by the Beirut government and the Iran-backed Hizbollah, that Ansarallah does not exist.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Lebanon frees bombing suspect

BERLIN (R) — Berlin justice authorities said on Tuesday that Lebanon had freed a Palestinian whose extradition was sought by Germany over a 1986 bomb attack on U.S. soldiers in a Berlin disco. Frank Thiel, spokesman for Berlin's justice ministry, said Interpol in Beirut had informed the ministry that Jassir Shradji, for whom Berlin prosecutors issued an arrest warrant in 1990, had been set free from jail. The Palestinian, who had worked in Libya's embassy in East Berlin, is suspected of playing a leading role in the April 1986 attack on the La Belle discotheque, which was popular with U.S. soldiers. Three people were killed and more than 200, including many off-duty U.S. servicemen, injured. Then President Ronald Reagan blamed Libya for the attack, and sent U.S. planes to bomb Tripoli in retaliation. Mr. Thiel said the decision to set Mr. Shradji free was "extremely negative." He said it gravely reduced the chances of bringing a key bombing suspect to trial in Germany. Mr. Shradji is also accused of murdering a Libyan dissident in Berlin in 1984.

U.S.-Kuwait stage war games

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) — U.S. and Kuwait staged joint military exercises Tuesday, the fourth anniversary of the Iraqi invasion, in what its defence minister described as a warning to Baghdad against future aggression. "We hope the Iraqi regime has got the message," said Defence Minister Ahmad Hamud Al Jaber Al Sabah. "Kuwait will not hesitate to defend itself in case of aggression." The U.S. ambassador, Ryan Crocker, said his country and Kuwait had the capacity to keep the peace in the Gulf. Two giant B-52 bombers, of the type which blasted Iraq during the 1991 Gulf war, were used in the manoeuvres, staged under the Kuwaiti-U.S. defence pact signed in September 1991. "The B-52s which took part in the liberation of Kuwait are ready to come back if (Iraq) does not respect the sovereignty of our country," a Kuwaiti officer said, declining to be named. Around 150 soldiers from both countries took part in the exercises, with tanks and F-18 warplanes in the Adh Al Khilla area near the Iraqi border, north of Kuwait City.

Egypt accuses West of double standard

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt's foreign minister has accused the West of applying a double standard by failing to halt Bosnian Serb aggression against Muslims after the Serbs turned down an international peace plan. Foreign Minister Amr Musa made the statement two days before Egypt and other majority-Islamic nations will meet in Geneva to discuss the situation in Bosnia. Mr. Musa said the West's failure to act against the Bosnian Serbs increased the belief among people in the Third World "that there exists a policy of double standards." He said: "A lack of serious and immediate confrontation of the Serbs and their aggression is once again apparent." The Serbs cannot be allowed to go on in this fashion, while the (U.N.) Security Council confronts other countries more severely. Many Muslims complain the West had done little to protect Bosnia's Muslims while much tougher standards are applied against Iraq for its invasion of Kuwait. In April 1992, Bosnia, Serbs launched a war after Muslim and Croat communities moved to secede from Serb-dominated Yugoslavia. An estimated 200,000 people are dead or missing in the conflict.

Rabin bows to ultra-orthodox protest over dig

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Tuesday ordered a halt to an archaeological dig after thousands of ultra-orthodox Jews staged a demonstration to protest that tombs were being desecrated. "When I understood that there was a risk of a riot, I ordered a suspension of the work to see if we could find a solution," the prime minister said over Israeli Television. Political analysts said he wanted to avoid a confrontation with religious parties, one of which, the Shas, could join his government coalition. Charging that ancient Jewish tombs were being desecrated, thousands of ultra-orthodox Jews demonstrated against the dig in Modiin, 30 kilometres west of Jerusalem. Judaism forbids the opening or disturbance of tombs which it considers sacred, often leading to new roads around Jerusalem having to be diverted.

Israelis complain about Canadian policy

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli officials are disputing a Canadian policy that accords refugee status to some Israelis from the former Soviet Union on grounds of discrimination in the Jewish state. Israeli foreign ministry spokesman Rafi Gamzu said on Tuesday that in the last three years, hundreds of Jewish newcomers from the former Soviet Union married to non-Jews had left for Canada alleging discrimination in Israel. He said 150 moved last year, making use of a jury-like Canadian immigration council to plead for refugee status. In one case a couple claimed to have been forced to attend synagogue while living in Israel, he said. "It is absurd and ridiculous that holders of citizenship in an open Western democracy like Israel are benefiting from the status of refugee in Canada, another Western democracy," he said.

Israel slams papal knighthood for Waldheim

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israel said Tuesday it wanted an explanation from the Vatican for Pope John Paul II's decision to award a papal knighthood to former U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, who is accused of involvement in Nazi war crimes. The row has blown up barely six weeks after Israel and the Vatican established diplomatic relations on June 15. "We are astounded and indignant at the strange decision to award such an honour and recognition to a controversial figure as Kurt Waldheim," foreign ministry spokesman Raphael Gamzu said.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77311-19

PROGRAMME TWO
17:00 Terastar
18:30 News in French
18:45 Le Monde Fantastique Des
19:00 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Da Beal's On
21:10 Murder She Wrote
22:00 News in English
22:30 Movie of the Week

PRAYER TIMES

06:20 Fajr
17:47 (Shafic) Dhuhr
12:42 Dhuhr
16:22 Asr
19:37 Maghreb
21:04 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church
Swaffah, Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel.
63785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation Tel.
674440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrestre Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel.
623541
Anglican Church Tel. 630851. Tel.
628543.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel.

771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel.
77261.
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
Armenian International Church Tel.
625226.
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel.
824226.
German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195
The Church of Jesus Christ of
Latter-Day Saints Tel. 624932.
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691.
The Evangelical Local Church in
Amman
Tel. 811295

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department
of Meteorology.

Temperatures will rise slightly
but continue to be below average
with winds westerly moderate to
active. In Aqaba, winds will be
northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min/Max. temp.
Amman 18/30
Aqaba 24/38
Dusair 18/23
Jordan Valley 23/37

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 29 Aqaba 35, Humidity
readings: Amman 36 per cent.
Aqaba 22 per cent.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY
AMMAN:
Dr. Mubashir Mubashir 820425
Dr. Nasser Ibrahim 682933
Dr. Youssef Rashid 890301
Dr. Mustafa Hazanah 826024
Fines pharmacy 661912
Rendow pharmacy 78336
Al Asema pharmacy 670555
Nairoukh pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shamsi pharmacy 676640
Nairoukh pharmacy 623672
Najib pharmacy 847632

EMERGENCIES
Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence immediate 661111
Rescue 630341

Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 821111, 637777
Fire Brigade 617101
Blood Bank 75121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 890390
Public Security Department 63021
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality
Complaints 623101
Telephone Information 787111
(electronic assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone
Repair 623101
Abdullah Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power
Company 636361
RJ Flight Information 06-53200
Queen Alia Int. Airport 06-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussien Medical Centre 813813/32
Khafif Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6
Abdullah Maternity, J. Amn 642411/2

Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Mallus, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shamsi 664171/4
Shamsi Hospital 66131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Musabir Hospital 667222/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 661646
Islamic, Al-Musabir 77101/5
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 771126
Army, Shamsi 891611/25
Queen Alia Hospital 022240/50
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)905650
Al-Hikma Modern Hospital (09)986732
ZARQA:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)72355
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)727275
St. Nafes Hospital (02)747100
Aqaba:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
ARRIVALS
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights
(Terminal 1)

06:25 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
09:45 New Delhi (RJ)
10:40 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
11:45 Riyadh (RJ)
12:15 Athens (RJ)
12:30 Beirut (RJ)
12:35 Amman, Chicago (RJ)
12:40 Paris (RJ)
12:45 Athens (RJ)
12:50 London (RJ)
13:45 Cairo (RJ)
14:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
15:15 Bangkok, Calcutta (RJ)
15:30 London, Berlin (RJ)
15:35 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
15:45 Athens (RJ)
15:50 Abu Dhabi, Al Ain (RJ)
16:00 Rome (RJ)
16:05 Larnaca (RJ)
16:20 New Delhi (add) (RJ)
16:25 Athens (RJ)
16:30 New Delhi (add) (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

13:10 Sharjah (AH)
13:30 Abu Dhabi (GF)
13:35 Munich (DE)
14:00 Riyadh (SV)
14:30 Beirut (add) (ME)
14:35 Sana'a (Y)
15:15 Beirut (ME)
15:20 Cairo (MS)
15:25 Istanbul (TK)
15:30 Dubai (EK)
15:35 Istanbul (TK)
15:40 Amsterdam (KL)
15:45 Riyadh (SV)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights
(Terminal 1)

05:00 Madrid (RJ)
05:15 Casablanca (RJ)
05:45 Beirut (RJ)
06:00 Amman (RJ)
11:45 Abu Dhabi, Al Ain (RJ)
12:00 Rome (RJ)
12:15 Montreal, Toronto (RJ)
12:20 Amsterdam, Chicago (RJ)
12:35 Paris (RJ)
12:40 Athens (RJ)
12:45 London (RJ)
13:45 Cairo (RJ)
14:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
15:15 Bangkok, Calcutta (RJ)
15:30 London, Berlin (RJ)
15:35 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
15:45 Athens (RJ)
15:50 Abu Dhabi, Al Ain (RJ)
16:00 Rome (RJ)
16:05 Larnaca (RJ)
16:20 New Delhi (add) (RJ)
16:25 Athens (RJ)
16:30 New Delhi (add) (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

05:05 Damascus, Paris (AF)
05:15 Beirut (ME)
05:20 Algiers (AH)
05:30 Doha, Bahrain (GF)
05:35 Sharjah (AH)
05:40 Munich (DE)
05:45 Riyadh (SV)
05:50 Beirut (add) (ME)
05:55 Cairo (MS)
06:00 Istanbul (TK)
06:05 Dubai (EK)
06:10 Amsterdam (KL)
06:15 Riyadh (SV)

HIJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

Dep. Amman 8:00 a.m. every Monday
Arr. Amman 5:00 p.m. every Monday
Dep. Amman 7:30 a.m. every Sunday
Arr. Amman 5:00 p.m. every Sunday

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple 600/400
Banana 600/400
Banana (Mukammal) 600/400
Cabbage 120/80
Carrot 240/160
Cauliflower 160/80
Cucumber (large) 240/160
Cucumbers (small) 240/160
Eggplant 180/100
Figs 450/250
Garlic 800/600
Grapes 400/200
Lemon 400/200
Marrow (large) 150/100
Marrow (small) 150/100
Mushrooms 150/80
Onion 200/100
Orange 200/100
Onion (dry) 250/180
Pumpkin 700/500
Sweet Melon 150/100
Pepper (hot) 240/160
Pepper (sweet) 240/160
Potato 400/250
Peaches 400/250
Tomato 150/70
String beans 400/200
Watermelon 150/80

Jordan-Israel telephone lines could be opened next week

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Telephone lines between Jordan and Israel could be opened as early as next week with the issuance of a government decision in line with the Washington Declaration signed by His Majesty King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on July 25, officials said Wednesday.

They said the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC), which has been studying its options of linking phone lines with the Palestinian territories after the signing of Israeli-Palestinian autonomy deal in September, had finalised all technical preparations for the opening of the phone lines with Israel.

Telecommunications Minister Hashem Dabbas was quoted as saying by the Associated Press that "we're technically ready to open the lines. We're awaiting a political decision from the

higher levels on the timing."

Officials said the Council of Ministers had not taken up discussing the issue as a formal topic, but a decision could be taken in one session of the Cabinet and the lines could become operational next week.

They said a possibility was the formal opening of the lines along with the inauguration of a border crossing near Aqaba and Eilat in a meeting attended by King Hussein, Mr. Rabin and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher on Aug. 8.

Experts pointed out that the opening of the lines was a relatively simple technical procedure since all other international infrastructure for direct dialing exist in both countries. "It will take only the flick of a switch," said one expert.

Israel opened its side of the dialing facility more than a year ago in a unilateral move rejected by Jordan.

"We have been studying the various options available to us ever since Israel and the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation) signed the autonomy agreement," said a senior official. "Our focus was on a linkage between the Palestinian territories and Jordan."

However, such a linkage no longer seems to be in the cards in view of the apparent apathy of the PLO leadership in cooperating with Jordan, political observers say.

With the arrangement with Israel, calls to the Palestinian self-rule areas as well as the rest of the occupied West Bank have to go through the Israeli switchboard. The Palestinian National Authority (PNA) is seeking a separate international dialing code and a separation of the phone lines in the territories from the Israeli system.

At present, subscribers on both sides of the river

could call each other through systems set up in Cyprus, some European countries and the United States. But such calls are not authorised by the government of Jordan.

For some weeks last year, callers from the occupied territories as well as Israel could dial Jordan direct, but the system was terminated on the Israeli side for internal reasons, reports from Israel said.

Opening direct dialing between Jordan and Israel is part of a series of the measures stipulated in the Washington Declaration. Others include the opening of border crossing for third country nationals and linking the power grids of the two countries so that they could help each other to meet peak-hour demands.

"Linking the power grids is not going to be an overnight affair," said another source. "It needs proper studies on the pros and cons, and preparations that could take some time."

ON EDUCATION: Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Wednesday addresses a meeting of educationists at the Ministry of Education on the need to stimulate the role of

schools to ensure development of the Jordanian society. The meeting was attended by Education Minister Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh (Petra photo)

Armenian folklore troupe shares world of dance

By Angham Tamimi
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — It was a tour around the world. At the Armenian Theatre in Jerash, Al Jeel Al Jadeed Cultural Club Troupe of Armenian Folklore performed 18 dances taken from various parts of the world Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

At first, the audience thought that they would be introduced to Armenian folklore only. But, surprisingly, Al Jeel Al Jadeed Troupe amazed the audience by performing a Russian sailors' dance, a gypsy's dance, a classical European dance, a tango, a flamenco, an Iraqi folkloric dance, as well as Georgian and Armenian dances. In addition, the attendees listened to two Lebanese songs, one of which was a song by Fairuz.

With colourful dresses and elegant movements, the 35 dancers swayed on the stage as smooth as butterflies. The audience was applauding to the same musical tunes, and when they comprehended the troupe's approach, they began asking loudly for some special requests.

The "Dance of Destruction" was excellently performed by an eight-year-old girl. It symbolised the 1989 earthquake in Armenia in which about 25,000 people died and numerous children were left

orphaned. The dance reflected the loss children felt after the incident.

The Armenian troupe originally belongs to Al Jeel Al Jadeed Society in Aleppo, Syria, which was founded 70 years ago. The management of the society, having a choral theatre previously, had provided all resources to establish this Armenian popular dancing group.

The leader and choreographer of the troupe Abraham Kostanian, 38, worked with different other groups before establishing this one in 1984. He studied classical ballet and folkloric dance for eight years at the Higher Institute of Classical Ballet and Folklore Dances in the former Soviet Union.

"My motto in life is to raise the folkloric art to the level of ballet and make it as respected as it should be," Mr. Kostanian told the Jordan Times. "I applied this idea in my field of study. Any subject and any story can be translated into a folkloric dance. For this reason, I am trying to present as many international dances as I can."

There was no exact or clear scale upon which these pieces were chosen. "Whenever I hear a musical piece that arouses my feelings, I begin searching for a dance design to match it," said Mr. Kostanian. "It is very important, I think, to unify the subject matter with the selected piece of

music and the dance."

Each dance presented on the stage required special costumes which can be very expensive. "Usually, women members of Al Jeel Al Jadeed Society volunteer to sew all the costumes. While the men finance the group. So, it is a small world and a big family," said Mr. Kostanian.

The full troupe comprises 500 dancers and has a completely new programme annually, said Mr. Kostanian. Each programme needs nine months to master, and during the remaining three months of the year, the troupe performs those pieces.

The troupe has participated in many festivals including the International Bura Festival in Damascus, Bait Al Deen in Beirut, and other festivals in Cyprus, Greece, and the former Soviet Union.

Each dancer, Mr. Kostanian said, needs three to four years of practice to become professional. For this reason, they should join the troupe at the age of 14 in order to excel at the age of 18. Nearly all of them are students, others work in jewellery or other jobs.

The Artemis Theatre stage was so narrow for Al Jeel Al Jadeed performance. It did not allow them to move freely. They would have presented other more complicated dances if staged on a larger set.

Doctors pledge to protect, encourage and support breastfeeding

By Ica Wahbeh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — As part of Jordan's observance of World Breastfeeding Week (Aug. 1-7), doctors from the Ministry of Health, signed a pledge to "protect, encourage and support" the natural way of feeding, as part of their responsibility towards the welfare of the child and the society as a whole.

At a ceremony organised by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Ministry of Health, presided over by Minister of Health Aref Batayneh and with the participation of the World Health Organisation (WHO), non-governmental organisations (NGOs), doctors from the private sector, women's organisations and mothers, Akram Nshewat, head of the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Department and chief of staff at the Ministry of Health, read the pledge which was later signed by the doctors present.

It is the third year that this international week is observed. Each year World Breastfeeding Week takes up an important theme to help protect, promote and

support breastfeeding. This year focuses on the International Code of Marketing of Breastfeeding, which was adopted in 1981 by the World Health Assembly as a tool to protect breastfeeding from "aggressive advertising and harmful marketing practices of infant feeding products," said Victoria Rialp, UNICEF area representative.

Stressing that the breastfeeding culture is part of the child-caring culture of Jordan, Ms. Rialp pledged, in the name of UNICEF to protect this culture and maintain the strong bonding relationship that develops between mother and child during breastfeeding.

Both Ms. Rialp and Omar Suleiman, WHO representative in Jordan, presented the benefits of breastfeeding to mother and child. Supporting his argument with statistics, Dr. Suleiman said children who are breastfed are bound to be eighth to 10 times more clever and 10 times less prone to suffering from different illnesses than those who are bottle-fed with substitutes for mother milk.

Dr. Batayneh said his ministry has been involved in the breastfeeding campaign as every doctor rec-



Minister of Health Aref Batayneh (second left) Wednesday participates in a ceremony marking International Breastfeeding Week. On the podium also, from right, are UNICEF Area Representative Victoria Rialp, WHO Representative Omar Suleiman and Akram Nshewat, the Ministry of Health (Petra photo)

ognises that mother's milk is "unique and it has positive effects on both the child's and mother's health."

Al Bashir Hospital is already a "baby-friendly" hospital, an idea that entails a concerted effort with hospitals, health services and parents to breastfeeding babies for a better start in life.

The minister said other

hospitals will be encouraged to become baby-friendly and that even private hospitals are targeted for this purpose.

During the ensuing discussions, different problems were raised by doctors themselves, mothers and journalists. Among the prominent ones were different institutions' lack of creches and kindergartens, the absence of a clear

labour law that ensures the mother's right to breastfeeding her baby during working hours if she so chooses, inconsistent prenatal care for mothers, which would include making them aware of the importance of breastfeeding and preparing them for it, and the absence of health services personnel and volunteers in remote villages.

HUDD plans construction of 11,000 housing units

AMMAN (Petra) — The Housing and Urban Development Department (HUDD) is preparing studies and designs for the construction of 11,000 housing units in Jordan over the next five years at an estimated cost of JD 90 million.

HUDD also plans to spend JD 10 million within the five-year-plan on improving services in existing poor districts and housing estates set up by HUDD, according to Minister of Public Works and Housing Abdul Razzak Ensur Wednesday.

HUDD Housing projects already under way are expected to be completed by the end of the year, said the minister adding that these projects are in Salt, Zarqa, Aqaba, Amman and Irbid governorates.

With the completion of these projects, HUDD will have erected 730 housing units in Ruseifa, 760 in Beit Ras, 340 in Marqeb (Amman Governorate), 620 in Mustanad (Amman), 275 in Marka, 540 in Taybeh, 510 in Ain Al Basha, 840 in Zarqa, 300 in Salt and 500 in Manarah, said the minister.

These projects, he added, have cost JD 30 million and were executed over the past few years.

Referring to road construction, the minister said roads built during 1993 cost JD 59 million, including 510 kilometres of new roads and improvements to 400 kilometres of existing roads and the widening of 1,632 kilometres of agricultural roads in various regions.

In the past year, the ministry finalised work on the Irbid-Jerash, Amman-Naour-Dead Sea, Ramtha-Jaber, Wadi Mujib, Ramtha-Nuaima and the Azraq-Iraqi border roads.

The ministry also plans to build new roads and complete work on others located in Ma'an, Aqaba, Irbid, North Shuneh, Salt and Amman in the early part of 1995.

Mother of eleven murdered by son in Bekaa — CDD

By Rana Hussein
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A 47-year-old mother of 11 was brutally murdered Tuesday by her son in the New Bekaa refugee camp, 20 kilometres outside of Amman, according to Civil Defence Department (CDD), police and family sources.

Raya I.S. was taking a shower alone in her house in the camp when she was struck in the back with a meat cleaver, stabbed with a switch blade, then burned by her 24-year-old son Amjad, a next door neighbour said describing the crime.

"The doctor who examined the body told us that my mother was slashed by the meat cleaver in the back of the neck and back, then stabbed in the stomach, then was burned," said one of the victim's sons.

A next door neighbour said Amjad surrendered to police willingly. Khalil Abu Hajar, a close friend of the suspect, said that he did not expect Amjad will kill his mother.

"Although Amjad mentioned earlier that he was going to kill both his parents, I didn't think he was serious," the 20-year-old told the Jordan Times.

According to Mr. Abu Hajar, Amjad and his father started having problems four years ago. At the beginning of this year, Amjad had a major fight with his father and he almost killed him with an iron bar because of a dispute over his sister's wedding, said the friend.

Amjad was kicked out of the house, and his mother helped him to visit home secretly, but the father dis-

covered the matter and threatened to kick the mother out of the house, said Mr. Abu Hajar.

According to Mr. Abu Hajar, Amjad was unable to visit his home "because he was rejected by both parents and he became spiteful and decided to kill both of them."

The day of the killing, said Mr. Abu Hajar, Amjad made sure that all his brothers and sisters were out of the house. When he went to kill his family, his father did not return home that day only the mother, Mr. Abu Hajar said.

He said the family of the victim will try to kill Amjad "if the law does not take its due course."

Police confirmed the killing but declined to give further details on the incident.

NMC, Beirut Symphonic bands in a most original presentation

By Jean-Claude Elias
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In endeavours to bring closer the many different music styles, the National Music Conservatory (NMC) Concert Band — and the Beirut Symphonic Band are joining talents to present an exceptional performance on Friday at the Hash Festival of Culture and Arts.

In what could prove to be the most spectacular event of the year's festival, Maestro Karim Fakihour, the NMC director, will conduct both ensembles, along with a 50-

member choir. He will be assisted by Hiroshi Maeda, Majed Sayyed and Samia Ghannoum.

Overall 120 musicians will display a colourful palette of varied, carefully selected pieces.

The attractive, unusual programme, professionally wrapped in a "show business" package will include well-known classical opera overtures, excerpts from Gustav Holst suite, "The Planets", medleys from A.L. Webber's "Phantom of the Opera", special arrangements of pop songs (Mariah Carey, Bryan Adams, Billy Joel), as well as box office cartoon hits like Aladdin, the

Little Mermaid and Beauty and the Beast.

Arabic pieces from Toufik El Basha, Elias Rahbani and Mohammad Abdel Wahab will also be performed. However, the final work, Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture" promises to end the show with a striking note. It will be accompanied by live fireworks.

The show is directed by Jordanian Kamel Hashem who has made available a giant screen on which highlights from the operas and movies will be displayed during the performance which will take place at the Artemis Theatre.

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House tells Clinton: We need to approve Haiti invasion

WASHINGTON (R) — Two senior U.S. congressmen said Tuesday President Bill Clinton should get prior congressional approval before ordering an invasion of Haiti, but the White House said it would oppose such a requirement.

Democrat Dan Glickman of Kansas and Republican Benjamin Gilman of New York, in separate statements, said Mr. Clinton should not rely on a U.N. resolution approved Sunday as his authorization to use U.S. troops to overthrow Haiti's military government.

Meanwhile, the State Department said that the flood of boat-people from Haiti, which some experts predicted would increase pressure on the United States to invade, had slowed considerably. Only one man on one boat was picked up Monday by the Coast Guard, spokesman David Johnson said.

Mr. Glickman, who has access to U.S. intelligence reports on Haiti as chairman of the House of Representatives Intelligence Committee, said in a letter to Mr. Clinton: "I am not aware of any information by which that situation could legitimately be characterized as an emergency."

"As a result, I could not support the use of U.S. forces without an authorization by Congress," he wrote.

At the White House, spokeswoman Dee Dee Myers said Mr. Clinton would continue consulting with Congress on Haiti "but would not support a resolution that would require approval" because such an effort "would interfere with his ability to make foreign policy."

Mr. Gilman said Mr. Clinton should explain to the American people the reasons for a U.S. invasion, the National Security interests involved, the objectives, the cost and when and under what circumstances U.S. troops would be withdrawn.

"Before reaching the point of no return on military action, President Clinton should exhaust every possible diplomatic solution," Mr. Gilman said.

Mr. Glickman noted President George Bush got congressional approval before the start of the Gulf war in 1991. There is strong bipartisan opposition in both the House and Senate to a U.S.-led invasion of Haiti.

Separately, a spokesman for Representative Bill

Richardson, who visited Haiti in July, said he would not be able to accept an invitation from Haitian military leader Lieutenant General Raoul Cedras to return because he is too busy with legislative business.

Sources in Haiti said Gen. Cedras had extended the invitation to Mr. Richardson in the hope of continuing discussions with the U.S. government. U.S. officials have said there will be no more negotiations with the Haitian regime.

"He's (Richardson's) got Clinton's ear," said one military source. "U.S. special envoy for Haiti William Gray is the mediator but he's never even been here," he said.

Mr. Richardson is considered a friend of President Clinton.

William Gray, President Clinton's special adviser on Haiti, said in an interview published by the Washington Post that an invasion was not imminent.

"The time may come when it's necessary to move to more drastic measures. But I don't think we're at that stage yet," Mr. Gray said.

Meanwhile, Haiti's de facto authorities, in their strongest warnings yet against local media, have told

the country's news outlets to stop issuing "foreign propaganda" or face closure or takeover.

"The media must remain calm and serene and avoid alarmist news," warned a communiqué from the de facto ministers of information and interior.

The army-backed provisional government also told the media if they do not obey, they may be taken over and used by the military administration.

In another communiqué issued late Tuesday, the de facto information minister warned all journalists and in particular foreign journalists that they risk arrest by entering special strategic zones set up by the government in June.

The zones are: Around bases of the police force, military outposts, military bases, naval bases, air bases, airports, and communications centres.

The communiqué said: "The minister informs that all violations of these zones will result in the immediate confiscation of all materials and equipment, the withdrawal of press accreditation and at the same time (the violators will be) held responsible according to the law."

Berlusconi gets respite from crisis

ROME (R) — Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi had a firmer grip on power Wednesday after his two chief allies closed ranks behind him in a show of unity that should give the media tycoon a new lease of political life.

Mr. Berlusconi, who came under intense pressure after a recent row with magistrates and unease over conflicts of interest with his business empire, pledged late Tuesday to press on with the task of governing Italy.

In a move likely to reassure Mr. Berlusconi after a month of political drubbing, the neo-fascist-led National Alliance and the federalist Northern League — his two main coalition partners — pledged their commitment to stable government.

But critics said the newfound harmony within Mr. Berlusconi's coalition was merely temporary and that sparks would fly when parliament got down to hammering out new legislation in September after the summer recess which begins later this week.

Mr. Berlusconi, who gave a confident performance in a tense parliamentary debate, was cautiously optimistic at the end of an emotional evening in which tempers flared in the chamber.

When asked whether he was satisfied with the outcome of the debate, the sun-tanned billionaire told Reuters: "I hope so. I said what I had to say."

The fiery Northern League leader Umberto Bossi, whose

recent outspoken criticism of Mr. Berlusconi has increased the pressure on the prime minister, said he would not topple a government formed only in May.

"This message is not only for the chamber but for all Italians: There will be no government crises," Mr. Bossi told the lower house.

Mr. Berlusconi, oozing confidence despite recent mishaps, had said earlier the legitimacy of his new government was beyond question and the only alternative to it was fresh elections.

He made it clear he had no intention of stepping down after last month's clash with magistrates over pre-trial custody and the detention of his brother and business partner Paolo in a corruption case.

"Maybe I'm just an incurable optimist but I see nothing black in the day which is drawing to a close," said Mr. Berlusconi, his trademark smile never far from his lips in a debate broadcast live on national television.

National Alliance leader Gianfranco Fini crushed any suggestion that the government was on its way out.

"The only surprises will be for those who expected tonight to mark the end of the government's experience," he said.

"Well, here's the surprise: Today is not D-Day."

Socialist Valdo Spini, one of those defeated by Mr. Berlusconi in general elections last March, said members of the tycoon's "Free-

dom Alliance" were merely papering over the cracks in a damage limitation exercise that would not last long.

He forecast the coalition would come under renewed strain when parliament reconvenes in September and begins to debate cost-cutting legislation that includes plans for swinging cuts to the country's generous pension system.

Political analysts are also waiting to see the full details of the League's plans to ensure there is formal separation between Mr. Berlusconi and his \$7.0 billion-a-year business empire.

Mr. Bossi maintained his uncompromising line on the issue, saying Mr. Berlusconi would have to part with his vast holdings if he were to remain prime minister in the long term.

"He will have to sell," Mr. Bossi told reporters.

Mr. Berlusconi's speech drew thunderous applause from packed government benches but howls of derision from the opposition.

A political novice, Mr. Berlusconi indicated he was exasperated with the continued dissent within his coalition and he warned Mr. Bossi that he would not remain a hostage of the Northern League leader's continued sniping.

It was Mr. Bossi who threw cold water on Mr. Berlusconi's plan to distance himself from the family's Fininvest holding which embraces television, retailing, insurance and sports.

Incumbent declared victor in Dominican elections

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (R) — Dominican election authorities proclaimed incumbent President Joaquín Balaguer victor in the nation's presidential elections, almost three months after votes were cast.

The central election board said Mr. Balaguer's declared victory was by just over 22,000 votes. It said the incumbent received 42.4 per cent of votes cast, compared with 41.4 per cent for his closest competitor in the May 16 contest.

Mr. Balaguer, who was seeking his seventh non-consecutive term, issued no immediate response to the declaration of his victory.

Vice President-Elect Jacinto Peynado called for a dialogue with the opposition and said he accepted the proclamation of victory "with happiness and humility."

In Washington, the State Department expressed disappointment over the board's decision to award the election to Mr. Balaguer.

The electoral authorities' decision was announced a day after Mr. Balaguer's government signed a pact letting U.S.-led troops patrol its border with Haiti.



Bangladeshi feminist writer Taslima Nasrin (with glasses) talks with her chief lawyer Amrul Islam after she surrendered to the High Court where she was immediately granted bail. Nasrin went into hiding two months ago when a lower court issued an arrest warrant against her for offending the religious feelings of Muslims for making alleged remarks about the Koran (AFP photo)

Bangladeshi writer freed on bail

DHAKA (R) — Bangladesh feminist writer Taslima Nasrin ended two months of hiding since June 4 after the government ordered her arrest for insulting Muslim feelings by telling India's Statesman newspaper that Islam's holy book, the Koran, should be "revised thoroughly."

Ms. Nasrin later said she was misquoted. The newspaper stood by its report.

The comments by Ms. Nasrin, a physician-turned-writer, provoked Muslim fury. Islamic militants offered cash rewards for her death.

Ms. Nasrin appeared in court at the request of judges after Mr. Hossain, her chief attorney, moved a bail petition for her.

"The petitioner never uttered any words of the kind alleged nor had any intention whatsoever to injure the religious feelings of any person," the petition said.

"If the words mistakenly ascribed to her have caused injury to religious feelings of any person the petitioner regrets this and is genuinely sorry."

Ms. Hossain, the government's chief lawyer, did not

oppose the bail petition.

"In Bangladesh women are always granted bail. Ms. Nasrin is a woman and she should be granted bail," he said.

Police and political analysts said they were not immediately sure if her submission would be enough to pacify her foes.

"This is too early to comment," said a leader of the ultra-rightist Jamaat-e-Islami Party.

"We are relieved by the news of Nasrin getting bail, at least for the moment," an Asian diplomat said. But he said more time would be needed to "get a full feel of the exact circumstances."

A Dhaka magistrate court had set an Aug. 4 deadline for Ms. Nasrin to give herself up or be arrested. If not, her property would have been forfeited and charges formally laid in her absence.

The High Court, in granting Ms. Nasrin's bail, said she must appear before the magistrate's court "in person or through a lawyer."

If convicted on the charges she could be jailed for up to two years, law officials said.

Strike call closes down Lagos amid calls for Abiola's release

LAGOS (AFP) — Riot police clashed with demonstrators in Lagos Wednesday as workers headed a general strike call to increase pressure on the Nigerian junta to free opposition leader Moshood Abiola, on trial for treason.

Police used teargas to disperse protesters who erected barricades and lit fires on roads in the north and centre of the commercial capital, which was largely otherwise deserted, witnesses told AFP.

The central working committee of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) was due to meet in the afternoon to decide whether to carry on with the strike after a series of

meetings with the junta, NLC, president Pascal Bafuyau said.

The NLC last Friday called on its members to begin an indefinite "sit-at-home protest" Wednesday alongside oil and gas workers who went on strike a month ago to have Abiola freed and installed as head of state.

The treason trial of the millionaire politician, who is presumed to have won presidential elections in June last year before the junta annulled the poll, was due to resume later Wednesday in the federal capital Abuja.

Police intervened in clashes between traders and protesters in the Oyingbo area of central Lagos and at

Oworonshoki on the outskirts and dispersed demonstrators in the Mushin, Ibeju-Lekki, Bariga and Jide-kunle districts.

The usually congested roads of the city were completely empty and all seven markets visited by AFP were closed. Offices, including diplomatic missions, were also shut.

Banks, which have operated a skeleton service for clients since the petroleum workers began their strike on July 4, inflicting growing damage on the oil-rich economy, failed to open. Some bank officials told AFP that they had ordered staff to remain at home until further notice.

Thirsty burglar falls victim to Japan heatwave

TOKYO (R) — A record heatwave in Japan has claimed another victim — a thirsty thief caught because he fell for cold beer at a home he was burgling. Police said the 50-year-old burglar sneaked into the home of a 72-year-old piano teacher in the western city of Osaka on the night of June 20. Before searching for cash, he gulped down two cans of chilled beer from the refrigerator. Hearing suspicious sounds from the kitchen, the piano teacher called police who arrested the burglar. "It was too hot. I just saw the beer in the refrigerator and I completely forgot what I was there for," police quoted him as saying. Prosecutors indicted the man over the Osaka case and two other burglary charges, police said Wednesday.

10-year-old defendant — colour him innocent

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. (AP) — While the prosecutor and public defender argued over whether he tried to hold up a convenience store, the defendant worked on his coloring book. His key defense witness fell asleep. The 10-year-old defendant was on trial for criminal aggravated robbery as a delinquent. Air

authorities say he tried to stick up a convenience store with a BB gun. His sidekick in the alleged robbery was his 9-year-old brother, who couldn't be charged under Colorado law because of his age. Instead, he became the defense's key witness. The 9-year-old said the two walked into the store with an unloaded BB pistol. While his brother was waving the gun back and forth, the 9-year-old said, he approached the cash register and told the clerk: "Open the cash register. Give me your money — not."

The popular expression is usually meant to convey the opposite of what is said at first, and public defender Cindy Cyphers argued the boys didn't really mean to rob the store. The jury agreed, acquitting the boy after six hours of deliberation.

"The popular expression is usually meant to convey the opposite of what is said at first, and public defender Cindy Cyphers argued the boys didn't really mean to rob the store. The jury agreed, acquitting the boy after six hours of deliberation."

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What a way to break a leg

LONDON (R) — A woman was treated for a broken leg after she fell naked from a tree while having sex in a park near Windsor Castle, a British newspaper said Wednesday. "The young couple had apparently gone to the great park for a bit of nookie and decided to climb the oak tree to add a bit of spice to the passion," a park spokesman told the Times. "As they reached the height of their passion, the woman slipped from one of the branches at the top of the tree and plunged to the ground. It was a very clear case of coitus interruptus." Officials at the park near Windsor Castle, one of Queen Elizabeth's royal residences west of London, said the unidentified woman was taken to a nearby hospital. "It was early in the morning and there were very few people about. The ambulance crew couldn't believe their eyes," said one.

Paper mourns Jackson-Presley marriage

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia's most popular daily newspaper Wednesday mourned the marriage of Michael Jackson to Lisa Marie Presley, saying it was more than his Russian fans could bear. "Having become a reputable family man, he has rehabilitated himself in the eyes of respectable Americans, who would never forgive any rock star (accused of) being a child molester," Moskowsky's Komsolets said in a front-page story. "We're not Americans. His fans here would prefer him to be gay, a child-molester and a serial killer all at once, rather than have their girlish dreams wrecked by an image of him as an exemplary husband," Jackson and Presley confirmed their marriage Monday, announcing they were wed 11 weeks ago in the Dominican Republic. The Moskowsky Komsolets story featured pictures of the couple with a large heart, and a headline that said: "Better you should be gay." "There are many tragedies in the life of our people," the newspaper said. "The latest one concerns mainly females below 25 years old. ... Girls, accept our condolences."

Robot surveys floor of volcano crater

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — NASA's Dante II robot was making a detailed video survey of the floor about 200 metres down a volcano's crater before beginning its climb up the inside wall. The eight-legged robot tiptoed up a 3-metre hill Tuesday — its most difficult feat so far — so researchers could gain a good vantage point for the survey.

"It was an extremely rugged obstacle, which involved gyrations of the robot to surmount," said David Lavery, manager of NASA's tele-robotics research programme.

3-metre-tall (10-foot-tall), 770-kilo (1,700-pound) robot was to begin its 2½-day climb up Mount Spurr's crater wall Wednesday. The return trip will take about a day less than the descent because the robot will spend more time on automatic pilot and less on remote-control, Mr. Lavery said.

"We'll just follow our footprints back up," he said. Dante reached the bottom of the crater later Monday after its slow walk down the 20- to 30-degree slope. The \$1.7 million robot was developed by NASA as a



The Dante II robot stands on the lip of Mt. Spurr, an Alaskan volcano, in this photo released by NASA on Aug. 2 (AFP photo)

prototype for planetary exploration. It was built by engineers at Pittsburgh's Carnegie Mellon University. Researchers in Anchorage and California are controlling Dante by remote control to see if it can travel over terrain too dangerous for humans and send back detailed information. Collecting data for volcano researchers was a secondary goal. On Tuesday, the robot visited four of several dozen vent clusters that spew gas through the crater's crust.

United opposition steps up pressure on Rao

NEW DELHI (AFP) — Opposition parties Wednesday stepped up pressure on Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao over India's biggest financial scandal, as his government manoeuvred to defuse a political row.

Members of a centre-left coalition staged demonstrations at parliament after boycotting the legislature to protest Mr. Rao's handling of a \$1.3 billion bank scam, which has returned corruption to the political centre stage.

"Narasimha Rao quit, quit," they chanted. "Punish the corrupt."

The opposition has accused Mr. Rao's administration of shielding ministers and officials linked to the banking fraud and covering up corruption, a perennial issue in Indian politics.

Leaders of the main opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) marched to the presidential palace and handed over a letter to President Shankar Dayal Sharma protesting the government's denial of responsibility in the scam.

"We will organise demonstrations, public meetings and processions to mobilise public opinion against corruption, which has become the single dominant issue," BJP leader Atal Behari Vajpayee said before meeting Mr. Sharma.

In parliament, Home Minister Shankarrao Chavan said Mr. Rao's government was "not interested" in suppressing the findings of the

Joint Parliamentary Commission (JPC) which probed the two-year-old securities scandal.

Mr. Chavan said the government had taken action on 109 of the 115 recommendations of the JPC, which investigated the securities fraud involving foreign and Indian banks, unscrupulous bankers and stock brokers.

"If the government had committed any mistake in the report, it was the duty of the opposition to point these out," Mr. Chavan said in a statement seen as a conciliatory gesture to the incensed opposition to defuse the storm.

He was referring to the government Action Taken Report which rejected the findings of the parliamentary probe committee which had blamed administrative lapses for the market scam.

The government described as unfair and unwarranted the charge that it failed to detect and stop the swindle by brokers and bankers who connived to siphon off \$1.3 billion from banks to play the stock market.

"The government would take the issue to the people to explain to them that it had not been lacking in any way in taking action on the findings of the JPC," the home minister added.

Other Congress leaders meanwhile said they were hopeful of a solution to the crisis, triggered by the opposition decision Tuesday to pull out of legislative committees and boycott the three

remaining weeks of the parliamentary session.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Vidya Charan Shukla said he was continuing "hectic" efforts to persuade opposition leaders to call off the boycott and return to parliament.

"We are in touch. I expect them to be back in a few days," Mr. Shukla told AFP.

Congress spokesman Vishal Gadgil said he was hopeful a "formula" would be worked out by mediators to resolve the political tangle.

Mr. Rao, 73, was seen by analysts to have handed ammunition to the opposition, which had been on the retreat since suffering reverses in state elections last November, by bungling the response to the parliamentary probe findings.

The premier also faced a serious crisis over the bank scam last year when stock broker Harshad Mehta, the principal suspect in the fraud, alleged that he had paid the prime minister a bribe to win political patronage.

That storm blew over when Mr. Mehta failed to deliver on a promise to produce proof.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister Manmohan Singh, the architect of India's economic reforms, has offered to resign amid the political storm over the government's handling of the huge bank scam, senior party sources said Wednesday.

Mr. Singh made the offer

Tuesday at a meeting of the ruling Congress (I) Party after he was criticised by some colleagues for landing the government in trouble, according to press reports confirmed by the source.

"I am ready to quit if it helps save the party and the government," the Economic Times newspaper quoted the 62-year-old economist as saying.

"I had offered to resign earlier. If anybody thinks that I am blocking the investigations (into the scam), I am prepared to quit."

The party source, who was present at the meeting, said Mr. Singh recalled he had submitted his resignation in December after a parliamentary panel found fault with the government's handling of the \$1.3 billion bank scam.

"He said he had done it once and was prepared to do it again if it helps the party," the source said, but ruled out the possibility of Mr. Singh pressing ahead with the offer.

The finance minister, who in December was persuaded by Prime Minister Rao to retract his resignation, was present at a cabinet meeting Tuesday following the party conclave in parliament and was at work, he said.

The Economic Times said some Congress (I) members alleged the "bureaucratic approach" of his ministry was responsible for the government's troubles and saw his offer to quit as a challenge to the leadership.



WASHINGTON (AP) — The government's No. 2 treasury Department official offered Whitewater testimony that one senator calls "ard to believe" and other views as "troubleme." And those are only e Democrats' comments.

With Roger Altman's credibility even more suspect among Republicans following s testimony Tuesday, his ss, Treasury Secretary oyd Bentsen, was set to e former Senate colleagues Wednesday. Mr. ntsen said he played no le in the investigation involving President Bill Clinton's former Arkansas land ntire...

Mr. Altman, who testified fore the Senate Banking mmittee from late afternoon into early Wednesday orning, was scheduled for other grueling session later ednesday before the House nking Committee.

The panels are investigating whether any improprieties occurred in the Resolution Trust Corp.'s (RTC) investigation of the failed Madison Guaranty Savings and Loan, which was owned by a close friend of the Clintons.

In criminal referrals sent to the Justice Department, RTC investigators alleged that the Clinton family may have benefited from improper activities this Spring and L.

Until this spring, Mr. Altman was the acting head of the RTC putting him in a position to influence the Madison investigation.

On Tuesday, the former investment banker gave little ground in his conflicts with other witnesses, insisting in a calm and deliberate fashion that "nothing unethical occurred" even as he apologized for misleading congressional testimony in February. "We all make mistakes, and

these sure aren't the first ones I've made," he said.

Mr. Altman contended he did not intentionally mislead the committee when he gave incomplete testimony on Feb. 24 on contacts with the White House about Whitewater while conceding that he should have disqualified himself earlier from overseeing an investigation involving his old friend, Mr. Clinton.

Mr. Altman, who was shown a videotape of his February testimony, said he simply may have misunderstood senators' questions.

Mr. Altman came in for a political thrashing from Republicans. Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., said the past Senate testimony bordered on lying.

Sen. Connie Mack, R-Fla., said: "You have repeatedly given non-responsive answers, which you justify

with semantic gymnastics. ... I can't help but conclude you've given every statement to this committee to evade, not to inform."

Mr. Altman's problems focused partly on conflicts between his version of events and those of other top Treasury Department and White House officials.

He rebutted the diary of the Treasury Department chief of staff, Josh Steiner, who wrote Mr. Altman was under "intense pressure" from the White House to remain at the agency despite his inclination to withdraw.

He tried to play down his personal struggle over disqualifying himself, a conflict that others described as agonizing.

"We're going to have to understand that a lot better than we understand it right now," Sen. Donald Riegle Jr., D-Mich, told Mr. Altman.

SEOUL (R) — South Korea's ruling party has suffered a setback in two by-elections, with the wife of a ousted rival of President Kim Young-Sam scoring a landslide victory on an opposition ticket in one.

Another opposition candidate won in a traditional ruling party stronghold while Mr. Kim's party won the third of four parliamentary seats at stake, election officials said Wednesday.

In Tuesday's by-elections, led by the press as the first in the country's history, Hyun Kyung-Ja swept to victory after claiming that her husband Park Chul-Un was jailed because of his political rivalry with Kim.

"My victory is voters' judgement on my husband Park Chul-Un and the restoration of honour for Taegu citizens," Ms. Hyun said after her win was confirmed in a Taegu city constituency.

She won 55.8 per cent of votes cast while the candidate from the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP), a well-known ex-lawmaker, came second with only 25.5 per cent.

Ms. Hyun was running for a seat in the National Assembly vacated by her husband's conviction in June for bribery. Mr. Park, who is serving an 18-month jail term, had pleaded not guilty.

Mr. Park, a nephew of ex-president Roh Tae-Woo's wife, was often described as Mr. Roh's "crown prince" and a potential successor. As a cabinet minister he served more as Mr. Roh's senior aide, handling everything from foreign policy to many domestic political issues in 1988 and 1989.

But his star fell in 1990 when Kim Young-Sam, a former dissident, crossed the floor of parliament and joined Mr. Roh's ruling party, competing with Mr. Park within the upper ranks of the ruling elite.

After Mr. Kim won the ruling party's presidential nomination in May 1992, Mr. Park defected to an opposition party set up by industrialist Chung Ju-Yung, founder of the Hyundai group.

Mr. Chung, who was convicted of embezzlement and election fraud during his unsuccessful bid for the presidency in 1992, quit politics shortly after Mr. Kim took office for a five-year term in February 1993.

"In another setback for Mr. Kim's party, the candidate of the main opposition Democratic Party narrowly beat the ruling camp candidate in the southeastern town of Kyongju."

It was the first parliamentary seat for the Democratic Party in the southeast, long regarded as a DLP stronghold.

Mr. Kim's party candidate won in the eastern Yongwol-Pyeongchang constituency, another traditional stronghold for his party.

BELFAST (R) — Three soldiers were injured when suspected IRA guerrillas fired a mortar bomb at a police and army base in Northern Ireland Wednesday, police said.

A police spokesman said an attack, in Newtownhamilton, on the border with Ireland, was almost certainly the work of the Irish Republican Army (IRA), which is fighting against the British from Northern Ireland.

"There was an explosion inside the base," a police spokesman said, adding that four soldiers were injured, one seriously.

Last week the IRA fired three mortar bombs into a Northern security forces base on the border, injuring more than 30 people. Its political arm Sinn Féin recently rejected Anglo-Irish offers to join peace talks if it renounced violence, calling for a "complete demilitarisation" of the province.

Police said Tuesday they had stepped patrols in Belfast because of heightened tensions after IRA gunmen killed two top Protestant extremists.

Outlawed Protestant groups promised retribution against the IRA and its mostly Catholic supporters after the killings and local community leaders warned violence would escalate.

"Steps have already been taken to increase our patrolling in the light of heightened tension in both communities," Bill Stewart, assistant chief constable for Belfast, said in a statement. A spokesman said more police would be on the streets.

Raymond Elder and Joe Bratty, identified as local commanders of the outlawed extremist Ulster Freedom Fighters (UFF), were killed in an ambush Sunday.

The Irish Republican Army, which has fought a 25-year guerrilla war to oust Britain from Northern Ireland, claimed responsibility for the killings. The UFF, which is dedicated to maintaining British rule, vowed revenge.

Police said crowds in a nearby Catholic neighbourhood stopped them from pursuing the killers, while Protestant groups accused police of deliberate negligence.

"What we do not need at this period are wild statements and unfounded allegations," Mr. Stewart said. "We require cool heads and wise counsel."

The Irish Republican Army late Tuesday said it had been given "an assessment of the current situation" in the Northern Ireland

peace process by Gerry Adams, leader of Sinn Féin. The leadership of the IRA confirms it has sought and received an assessment of the current situation from Gerry Adams of Sinn Féin.

This step was taken by the IRA leadership as part of an overall consideration in regard to the peace process," said a statement, carrying a recognised codeword, telephoned to the Dublin-based independent radio station Classic Hits 98 FM.

The IRA statement offered no elaboration.

It followed speculation persisting on both sides of the Irish border over the prospects of an early limited IRA ceasefire, despite Sinn Féin's effective rejection of the Downing Street Northern Ireland peace declaration at a conference in County Donegal last month.

PHNOM PENH (AFP) — three foreign hostages being held by Khmer Rouge guerrillas were heard on tape Wednesday, as Cambodian premier Prince Norodom Ranariddh said he was optimistic they would soon be released.

"We are quite optimistic, to know that they (Khmer Rouge) are willing to release them, that they don't want to keep them hostages," the prince told reporters.

Information Minister Ieng Mouly showed reporters photographs and played a tape indicating the Westerners were alive and unharmed.

One photo showed the hostages standing barefoot looking glumly into the camera while another showed the hostages sitting in a typical rural hut with a Khmer Rouge guerrilla standing outside.

The guerrillas seized the three tourists, Australian David Wilson, 29, Briton Mark Slater, 28, and Frenchman Jean-Michel Braguet, 27, following the attack on the train in southern Kampot province July 26.

The tape contained short, similar messages from each of the three hostages.

"My name is Mark Slater, 28 years old, from England. I was on the train from Phnom Penh to Kompong Som Tuesday (July 26) with an Australian friend and a French friend. The train came under attack and we were taken hostage by the Khmer Rouge. We have now been held six days. The conditions are difficult. Don't listen to the government just do what you feel," he said.

Mr. Braguet said that the conditions were difficult but bearable. He hoped their families had been informed and that "someone was doing something for us."

The guerrillas had previously issued a ransom demand of \$50,000 in gold for the release of each of the three, but it was not clear whether they were sticking to this demand.

"The Khmer Rouge are still looking for a ransom, but we are not sure how much they need," a police officer said.

Prince Ranariddh added: "They know well that they are not rich people."

"But about the ransom, I cannot make any statement. We have to examine this alongside the countries concerned," the prince said.

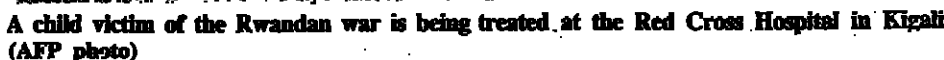
"Our objective is to free those hostages, it is an absolute priority."

Australian officials said that Canberra would not meet demands for a cash ransom but might follow the example of an American aid organisation that recently secured the release of one of its aid workers kidnapped by the same group of guerrillas.

SYDNEY (R) — Rwanda's new government is united, seeks the reconciliation of the Rwandan people and can offer refugees security if they return from neighbouring countries, Rwandan Prime Minister Faustin Twagiramungu said Wednesday.

"We have decided that the RPF (Rwandan Patriotic Front) should realise that now there is a government," Mr. Twagiramungu said in an interview on Australian Broadcasting Corp Radio.

"It is no longer a movement of rebels, it is a political party like any other now so they have to respect this principle, otherwise we could frankly get into trouble," he said.



"One, if we have the means (of) transport, second, if they are convinced by the international community and by the neighbouring countries they should come back because it is a government which can assure them security," he said.

Mr. Twagirumungu said his government would directly communicate with the more than one million refugees in neighbouring countries to encourage them to return home.

"We must have radio to communicate with them, or we have to go into camps and talk to them physically," he said.



MOSCOW (R) — Russia waged a war of nerves against the rebel leader of the break-away Republic of Chechnya Wednesday, apparently hoping to topple President Dzhokhar Dudaev without using force.

Reports from Grozny, the capital of the north Caucasus republic, said it was calm and still in Mr. Dudaev's hands despite an announcement by his Moscow-backed oppo-

The council, headed by Umar Avtorokhanov, Wednesday announced the appointment of a new chief prosecutor in the republic.

Karadzic inv

BELGRADE (AFP) — Under increasing international pressure to accept an international peace plan, Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic invited his rival, Alija Izetbegovic, to talks Wednesday ahead of a new session of the self-styled Serb parliament.

Mr. Karadzic had turned again to his parliament to legitimise his refusal to accept the plan after it was put forward by the international "contact group" on Bosnia-Herzegovina last month.

The parliament has already rejected the package twice in the past fortnight provoking its sponsors — Britain, France, Germany, Russia and the United States — to call on the U.N. Security Council to toughen sanctions on the Bosnian Serb's patrons in Belgrade.

The Bosnian government has already accepted the plan which gives 51 per cent of the territory in a unitary Bosnian

with instructions to "restore constitutional order" and ensure the security of all citizens. ITAR-TASS news agency reported.

Russia's reluctance to risk direct military intervention in Chechnya is largely motivated by the failure of a bungled attempt to send troops there in November 1991, shortly after Mr. Dudayev proclaimed independence.

Other influential figures in the region, including Musa Stanibev, head of the unofficial "coordination of peoples of the Caucasus," have told the Kremlin direct military intervention could touch off a general war involving other ethnic groups.

However Postfactum News Agency said Mr. Dudaev convened a meeting of his top military and security officials Wednesday to discuss a reported buildup of Russian army and Interior Ministry troops on Chechnya's borders.

Russia's Defence Ministry denied reports that the defence minister, Pavel Grachev, had broken off his

tes Bosnian p

holiday to deal with the crisis. It also denied the reports of troop movements.

TASS quoted one top Russian policymaker, who was not named, as forecasting a stalemate between Mr. Dudayev and his foes, who control some areas of the republic.

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Sergei Shakhrai, regarded as one of the authors of the Kremlin's policy, told Interfax News Agency he believed "a critical mass" now existed which would lead to Mr. Dudayev, being removed peacefully.

"I think it is a matter of months," Mr. Shakhrai was quoted as saying. His statement suggested that a showdown might not be imminent, and that Moscow was hoping Mr. Dudayev's support would gradually crumble.

Mr. Dudayev has dismissed the Provisional Council as non-existent and rejected

resident to ta

its claims to represent the population of the republic, whose main industry is oil refining.

Chechnya is one of 21 semi-autonomous ethnic republics in the Russian Federation. Its independence has been recognised by no one else and Mr. Dudayev is shunned by other republic

The president of the republic of Bashkortostan, Murtaza Rakhimov, who signed a treaty on power-sharing with the Russian government Wednesday, described Chechnya under Mr. Dudayev as "a tumour on a healthy body." "The problem of Chechnya should be resolved as soon as possible. (We must) put an end to this outrage," TASS quoted Mr. Rakhimov as saying.

On Friday, Russia's government accused Mr. Dudayev of beheading his political opponents, destabilising the region and spreading terrorism. The Interior Ministry showed reporters photographs of severed heads, saying they had been taken in Chechnya.

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manders agreed in principle to halt the sniper attacks currently terrorizing the city.

The international pressure on the Serbs to accept an end to the war and the handing over of conquered territory has been increased by Russian pressure on Serbia itself to pull Mr. Karadzic's strings

"The Russians clearly exercised enough influence on Serbia to force them to put minimum pressure on the Bosnian Serbs," Bernard Adama, head of the European Research Institute on Information on Peace and Security, said in Brussels Wednesday.

Mr. Milosevic's long-time support for pan-Serbian nationalism has been tempered by the bite of sanctions against his country and he could hardly ignore the threats of Russian envoy Vitaly Churkin to support a toughening up and stricter enforcement of the embargoes.

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Starting from scratch

THE SUBJECT of the transfer of technology has been a topic for discussion in Third World countries and between them and the industrialised North for more than two decades now. While the countries of South-East Asia seem to succeed in absorbing new technologies, the countries of the Middle East and Africa are only stumbling in their effort.

Examples to the first group include Singapore, Taiwan, South Korea, and Malaysia. The second group includes rich-oil producers such as Saudi Arabia, Nigeria and Algeria. The so-called Asian tigers have followed in the footsteps of the giant of Asian giants, Japan.

Jordan has been for more than a decade now fully engaged in the attempt to bring in transfer technology in the hope of turning itself into the Middle East's Singapore. Officials and academics alike have been visiting the countries of South-East Asia to study their experiments and benefit from them. At the same time, many research and development institutions have been established at the different universities in addition to the Royal Scientific Society. Two of the Jordanian universities are exclusively devoted to the task: The state-owned University of Science and Technology and the privately-run University of Applied Sciences.

The work of all these centres and institutions is being coordinated by the Higher Council of Science and Technology. Individually and collectively these institutions have achieved some progress in certain areas of science and technology application. Noticeable among these are advancement in irrigation systems and the harnessing of solar energy. But these are far from putting Jordan in league with Asian tigers.

Academics who visit South-East Asia say the success story of many of these countries is based on reformed and rigorous education systems, in liberal economies and in massive investment. All three ingredients are missing in the case of Jordan. Perhaps the most important single reason for the situation we find ourselves in is the educational system that we have been grappling with and attempting to reform for a long time. While reforming the bureaucracy is not a forbidding task, given the will to do so, and illiciting investment is possible, given the right conditions, education is a long-term process. It requires a review of existing methods, identification of areas of change and execution, which itself takes at least 16 years of school and university teaching.

The Japanese and the Korean experiments are testimony to this contention and every year that passes without genuine reform of the educational process is a lost year.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A COLUMNIST in Al Rai Wednesday reflected on the situation inside the self-rule areas of Palestine noting the local Palestinian people's frustration over the delay on the part of the donor nations to honour their commitments of providing financial assistance to the Palestine National Authority. Ibrahim Al Absi, writing from Jericho, said that the man in the street is obviously concerned over this situation and wonders if there is a conspiracy behind the delay, intended to undermine and discredit the local Palestinian authority. The writer said that further delays in delivering the promised assistance to the Palestinian leadership is bound to have very negative impact on the Palestinians in general and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in particular, endangering the whole peace process. The writer quoted more pessimistic residents in Jericho as saying that Israel and certain Western powers were behind the delay in providing the urgently needed assistance with the intention of embarrassing the local Palestinian authority prior to ending its influence.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour daily warned the Muslim Brotherhood against going ahead with their threats of pulling out their representatives from Parliament. The Islamist deputies' exit from the Lower House of Parliament can only reflect adversely on the Islamic movement and weaken the Islamists' cause, said Saleh Qallab. The Muslim Brotherhood can, through its representatives in Parliament, express its opposition to the government's actions without violating the law and can continue to defend its own views openly under a democratic atmosphere, he said. At the same time, the Islamists are bound under the rules of democracy to accept the vote of the majority in Parliament and so continue to win the respect of the public and their colleagues in the House, continued Mr. Qallab.

Nation building, the self-rule areas and the donors

By Dr. Ahmad Y. Majdoubeh

THE CURRENT tension between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) on the one hand and the so-called donor community on the other over the transfer of money to the self-rule areas presently under direct PLO/PNA supervision is, ironically, displeasing and pleasing at the same time. It is displeasing because Gaza and Jericho are in dire need of funds, and procrastination will make things worse than they already are; it is pleasing because many feel that it is time, especially at this critical stage of nation building, for the Palestinians to reflect deeply on the ability of their institutions (those in existence as well as those being created) to handle money properly, and to justify and demonstrate such ability to the international community and to themselves.

The situation is this. The PLO/PNA, eager to run daily affairs smoothly and under pressure to improve conditions in the self-rule regions urgently, is pressing for a speedy, preferably unconditional, handover of money pledged by the international community following the signing of the PLO-Israel Declaration of Principles in Washington last September. The donor countries, unwilling to give the PLO/PNA a free hand in the matter, appear quite reluctant to hand over the money in the manner the PLO/PNA desires. The question, as far as one is able to tell, seems to be not so much that the funds are not actually available, but that the donors want guarantees that such funds will be spent on specific projects and will be handled with extreme efficiency and care.

Paradoxically, the PLO/PNA is right, and the donor community is right.

Yes, conditions in Gaza and Jericho (and the occupied territories more generally) are quite dismal. The overwhelming majority of families living in these areas are large and poor, income is extremely low, and unemployment is outrageously high. The infrastructure, as a result of 27 years of deliberate, subversive and ruthless Israeli policies, is in absolute bad shape. Health, education, social, economic and other public-service institutions are way below standards. Technically, the PNA has to start from scratch. A great deal of hard currency is needed not only to pay for the salaries of the employees the PLO/PNA is now in charge of, such as the police force and the staff of other establishments, but also to inject life in many of the vital institutions which Israel left behind in a state of coma, to implement projects and to create new opportunities.

The matter is serious. For the PNA to gain credibility among its people and to function well, it must act quickly and produce tangible results. Stability, during this particularly

sensitive transitional period, is of paramount importance if the PNA is to embark on realising its goals and aspirations and if peace with Israel is to pick up momentum and endure. So far, Gazans have been exemplary in their patience, perseverance and positive outlook; aside from the unfortunate incident at the border crossing with Israel a couple of weeks ago (an incident which illustrates well the need to come up with quick but effective solutions to the various economic hardships and problems in the self-rule areas), everything else has been proceeding almost as smoothly as one would expect under the circumstances. But the said incident comes to remind us of how threatening and dangerous the situation can be if promises are given and few results are achieved. Gazans, in particular, have suffered long under occupation and have been long deprived of essential needs. How long are they expected to be patient and to think positively? For the man in the street, home is more than a national flag and a national governing body; home is a decent job, a clean apartment or house, a delicious meal at the end of the day and financial security. What is at stake if conditions in the self-rule areas do not significantly improve is not only turmoil in these areas but also real bad news for the Mideastern peace process. Clearly then, we do sympathise with the PNA's concerns.

But we also sympathise with the concerns of the donor community. Money is serious business. No one knows this fact better than Western powers which, since the rise of capitalism, have well understood the role and importance of money in nation building and national strength, and in international influence and supremacy. However, money alone is not sufficient guarantee of advancement or progress; there has to be careful handling and careful planning. Benjamin Franklin is right: "Wealth" and "wisdom" must go hand in hand to ensure success. Otherwise, there will be a great deal of inefficiency, mismanagement, and waste — as we the people of today's Arab World well know by now. We should remember in this context that global funds, in the post-cold-war era and in the wake of the new world order, are immensely scarce. Almost all countries in the world, both rich and poor, are experiencing economic recession and complaining about lack of resources. Fundraising is no longer as fun and easy as it used to be a decade or two ago. And neither is international aid. The point here is that the donor community has the right to ask about the qualifications of the PNA with respect to money handling and has the right to wait until it gets sufficient assurances. But the Palestinian and Arab people have also the right to ask and be amply assured.

There are two additional reasons why such questions must be raised.

A) The PLO, justifiably or not, has since its establishment in the sixties spent huge amounts of money, at times quite lavishly. This is in no way surprising, even though it is certainly regrettable. For one thing, the PLO, like most countries in the region, is largely a byproduct of the so-called Third World mentality — one which is not particularly conscious — or respectful of money matters. I am not saying here that the PLO spent all the money it received in the past on petty and trivial matters. Nor do I aim to discount its successful experience with institution building in the diaspora and the invaluable services it provided the Palestinian refugees and people with. What I wish to assert, rather, is the fact that it could have been a lot wiser in allocating and spending funds. For another, the seventies and eighties were in many ways a curse to the whole Arab Nation. There were, during these two decades, great resources and immense amounts of money. Rather than use such wealth prudently, Arabs (both citizens and governments) abused it remarkably. We wasted so much on expensive cars, fashionable clothes, luxurious estates, spectacular buildings of all sorts, whimsical schemes, outrageous hobbies, etc. The PLO was no exception, even though as a revolutionary organisation it was supposed to be one.

B) The PLO, as the spearhead of a people aspiring to the condition of statehood, has little experience in state building. The size of work it performed as an organisation is in no way comparable with the tasks it is presently executing and the work ahead. It is quite natural, therefore, for the donors to harbour scepticism and doubt about its ability to run financial matters singlehandedly. And it is the PLO's right, indeed duty, to dispel such scepticism, doubt, or fear.

Well, be the case as it may, the ball is in the PLO's court now. The way I see it, there is one choice for it, and one choice only: to prove sooner than later that it is worthy of people's trust and that it can handle financial matters responsibly. What is past is past; we are the children of the '90s and the 21st century. The seventies and eighties are not likely to be repeated; the honeymoon is over. What is required now is the creation of a reliable body, composed of a team of experts, whose sole job is to keep a close eye on whatever funds come to the self-rule areas and to oversee meticulously the way the funds are allocated and spent. Ben Franklin is right again: "Waste not, want not." In my opinion, this could be a very positive challenge, in addition to being an absolutely necessary task.

M. KAHIL



Squabbling may yet lead to presidential defeat for French right

By Paul Taylor
Reuters

PARIS — Could the French right, still buoyant after the 1993 election rout of its Socialist opponents, yet face defeat in next year's presidential election?

The question may sound far-fetched at a time when opinion polls show the electorate is overwhelmingly in conservative and a defeated left-wing opposition is divided and in disarray. Bitter undecided rivalry between Gaullist Party leader Jacques Chirac and Prime Minister Edouard Balladur threatens to unleash a fratricidal war for the right-wing nomination.

As politicians head for the beaches on their annual summer break, no one can be sure how this duel will end. "There will be blood on the walls," one Gaullist predicts. "It won't happen. Balladur won't fight," another forecasts. "They will settle it like gentlemen," yet another guesses.

The in-fighting reminds some conservatives uncomfortably of right-wing feuding in 1981 and 1988 that helped assure Socialist President Francois Mitterrand's victory and reelection.

Some commentators believe another split in the right could yet open the way for outgoing European Commission President Jacques Delors to return to France next year and run a short, successful centre-left campaign for the presidency.

Opinion polls, subject to caution 10 months before the April 23 first round,

show that while Mr. Balladur would beat Delors comfortably in a run-off, Mr. Chirac could well lose to him.

Neither Mr. Chirac, 61, nor Mr. Balladur, 65, has acknowledged the struggle even exists, although both men's closest associates have been fighting a guerrilla war of words.

Mr. Chirac launched the first attack in June when he published a manifesto-style book called "A new France", implicitly slamming Mr. Balladur by saying that the war on unemployment, rather than inflation or currency stability, should take priority.

Jean-Louis Debre, the Gaullist Party's deputy secretary-general who is nicknamed "Chirac's hitman", followed up in mid-July, saying a different economic policy was needed to bring unemployment down. Gaullist parliamentary floor-leader Bernard Pons joined the chorus by voicing exasperation with "those who pretend that no other policy is possible."

Mr. Balladur responded tellingly by saying the French public was outraged by the spectacle of politicians obsessed with nothing but the presidential election.

Aides say he is hoping that a forecast fall in the jobless total from the end of this year, coupled with a revival of economic growth, will disarm critics.

Each man has a power base. Mr. Chirac largely controls the Neo-Gaullist rally for the Republic Party he created in 1976 and commands the loyalty of most of its 245 parliamentarians. He also has wealthy and

powerful friends in industry.

Mr. Balladur controls the machinery of government, with its huge opportunities for patronage. He has shoe-horned many of his own men into key industry jobs and has many supporters in the union for French democracy (UDF), junior partners in the coalition.

UDF leader Valery Giscard d'Estaing, who lost the presidency in 1981 partly because of right-wing divisions, has said he, too, is considering entering the 1995 race despite low poll ratings.

Policy differences between Mr. Chirac and Mr. Balladur, both Gaullists, have probably been exaggerated artificially by their rivalry but the contrast in styles is striking. It is a contest between charisma and competence, between guts and brains, between a secular nationalist and a devout Roman Catholic conservative.

A natural campaigner, Mr. Chirac is a restless, energetic populist who loves wading into crowds to shake hands, kiss babies and rub shoulders with ordinary folk. Mr. Balladur is a buttoned-up patrician who sounds pompous despite the image-makers' efforts to project him as a man in touch with the young. He was furious when a photographer snapped him smoking a fat cigar.

While Mr. Chirac's backers say France will want new vision and ambition when it elects a new president for seven years, Mr. Balladur's men say voters want reassurance and sound governance.

Determined to win this time after two failed bids, Mr. Chirac professes loyal support for Mr. Balladur's centre-right government while keeping his distance. Ironically, it was Mr. Chirac who propelled the former finance minister into the premiership by saying he did not want the job again when the right won a landslide parliamentary election victory over the Socialists in March 1993.

After Mr. Chirac's bitter experience of "cohabitation" with Mr. Mitterrand from 1986 to 1988, Mr. Balladur said in a landmark 1990 article that left-right power-sharing could work provided the prime minister was not a candidate for the presidency.

Mr. Chirac's backers regard that as a promise by Mr. Balladur not to run. The premier's supporters say it was no such thing. Mr. Balladur steadfastly refuses to discuss the presidential race until next year although all his policy decisions seem calculated with the Elysee Palace in mind.

The prime minister has quietly relished opportunities to act presidentially during Mr. Mitterrand's recent absence for prostate surgery and on an image-building trip to Africa, traditionally Mr. Chirac territory.

France's six-month presidency of the European Union from next January should give him further opportunities to shine.

The unknown factor is whether Mr. Balladur really has the killer instinct to take on his party leader and political ally of 30 years in a head-to-head fight for the candidacy.

West, Russia face potential disaster over Bosnia

By Nicholas Doughty
Reuters

BRUSSELS — The Western allies and Russia face diplomatic humiliation, fresh disagreements and possible military disaster if they fail in a final bid to win Bosnian Serb acceptance of their peace plan for Bosnia, diplomats say.

With the threat of a new flareup in Europe's worst conflict since World War II, foreign ministers from the United States, Russia and the European Union agreed on Saturday to tighten sanctions against Belgrade in an effort to end the war.

But diplomats said the major powers, struggling to maintain a united front, had done little more than put off difficult choices about the next steps to be taken.

Russia and others are appealing to Bosnia's Serbs to reconsider and swallow the international peace plan, which has been accepted grudgingly by the Muslim-Croat alliance but rejected by the Serb side. "It's our best hope because every other choice open to us is potentially disastrous," said one Brussels-based diplomat closely involved with attempts to broker an end to the war.

"We can either do nothing, which would maintain the international consensus but wreck what's left of our credibility, or we can take steps that would risk a major row among the allies and perhaps just make the conflict worse."

None of the Western powers is prepared to impose a solution by force, although many of them — as well as Russia — know their troops serving as U.N. peacekeepers in Bosnia are at risk. So what are the options? The first would be simply to tighten U.N. sanctions against Belgrade — the lowest common denominator and something on which all of the major powers could agree.

The problem with that option, diplomats say, is that it will not affect the fighting while destroying any credibility that remains after more than two years of failed efforts by the United Nations, the European Union and NATO to end the conflict.

Before the Geneva meeting, the peace plan was billed as a last chance, with the threat of tougher action to follow if the parties rejected the scheme which would give the Muslim-Croat alliance 51 per cent of

Bosnia and leave the rest to the Serbs.

"If that is all we can do, then we are going to look like hollow men," said another diplomat. "The Serbs will have called our bluff again and they will have won."

More sanctions are unlikely to have any positive effect on the fighting and may provoke more Serb attacks on lightly armed U.N. peacekeepers from Western nations and Russia.

But agreement on tougher measures seems unlikely because of tensions within the alliance that has been trying to end the war through the "contact group" which drew up the peace plan.

The United States has talked of ending the arms embargo, which would allow the Muslims access to badly needed heavy weapons. Britain and France dislike this option although they say it may be inevitable if the Serbs remain intransigent.

In any case, the threat may be hollow. Russia, with close traditional links to the Serbs, is highly unlikely to agree to lift the United Nations arms embargo.

U.S. President Bill Clinton, under domestic pressure to do more to help Bosnia's Muslims, might be forced by Congress to lift the U.N.-imposed embargo unilaterally. But diplomats said that if the United States did so, Washington would be accused by many countries of breaking international commitments at a time when it is seeking U.N. support in other foreign policy areas such as Haiti.

There would also be the risk of a major row with Russia. France and Britain, the major contributors to the U.N. force in Bosnia, have indicated they would have to withdraw their troops if the arms embargo is lifted.

The final option is the use of limited military action to "punish" the Serbs for their refusal to make peace, using NATO air power and more vigorous protection of U.N.-designated "safe areas" in Bosnia.

But the risks there are equally great. NATO strikes earlier this year provoked a major row with Moscow and more attacks could bring massive Serb retaliation against U.N. forces — again raising the spectre of a military disaster.

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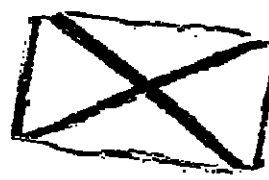
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August 4, 1994

Published Every Thursday

Weekender

1994 Jerash Festival — a distinguished affair

By Mohammad Mashariqah

In the first days of Jerash Festival for Culture and Arts visitors put up a timid appearance in the different theatres, unbelieving that they would hear or see anything that could bring entertainment and joy to their hearts.

The festival's management responded intelligently to this situation and through prompt adjustments to the programmes, it succeeded to quickly bring about stimulation, thus attracting the largest number of audience. Instead of sufficing itself with the local folkloric troupes who performed at the main square, the management brought in American folk dancers and the Indian folkloric troupe to the scene, both presenting new colours of dancing and music that won the audience's applause and became the focus of attention of all visitors to this year's event.

There is no doubt that the alteration in the festival's programmes to win the favour of the audience was a clever move on the part of the management and one that removed the psychological barrier between the festival and the public whose members started rushing in multitudes towards the children's theatre, Artemis, Geracia, the popular cafe and the South Theatre. The move fulfilled the dream of the visitors of a successful festival this year and enabled them to attain their right to enjoyment despite the somewhat worrying circumstances facing their country at the moment.

Ten thousand daily visitors to Jerash were enough to show enthusiasm for the event; and according to the management, the audience proved capable of selecting events that best met their own taste.

In the light of the audience's selection of the events, one can deduce that some changes have swept over the way of thinking among the Jordanian society in the past years, steering them away from cultural activities requiring mental and serious efforts and driving them closer to entertainment performances, helping them to feel relaxed and happy.

AMMAN CULTURAL PULSE

For instance a big audience showed clear preference to the Spanish folk dance group and the more than 20,000 visitors in one night gathered to hear the popular singer George Wassouf. While in contrast, Jordanian musician Yusef Khasbo failed to attract a big audience despite his playing the works of world renowned composers and his own works on the piano.

Again, a Shakespearean play presented for the first time at the festival has given way to a local comedy The World Family which won the acclaim of most visitors.

Poets found a few listeners to their readings and they reacted by cursing the present decline in Arab culture

and blaming the Jordanian public, the backwardness and the ignorance which they said were still lingering within the society.

The poor turnout of audience to listen to the poems, prompted a writer in Al Ra'i daily to direct the blame towards the poets themselves, hence triggering a war of words between the press and the poets.

The fact is that poetry that lacks the touch of "music" and fails to attract dancers does not appeal to the public any more. While the controversy persists, some poets have expressed the view that sinister conspiracies are being concocted against them.

As to Geracia, critics could only describe it as an embodiment of success. Some said that the local cultural activities presented at Geracia represented a workshop or laboratory for testing the public's views.

One can proudly say that some of the performances at Geracia proved to be up to world quality standards, despite the short time for preparations, the insufficient materials and limited experience.

The poetry-reading accompanied by music, as well as the music and dancing at Geracia attracted great numbers of visitors who watched the dancing and the young poets reciting verse to the tunes of music.

Indeed, the young Jordanian musicians who presented oriental music on Western musical instruments and Western music through oriental instruments deserve applause and encouragement.

Realising that Jordanian youths are thrilled by Western music, the festival's management made arrangements for a Jordanian troupe to present Western style music at Artemis Theatre; and observers considered this move as worthy of appreciation and support.

Through Geracia the festival's management has attempted to present the works of local folk troupes within the framework of the Western style concept, that is, to the accompaniment of music. The experiment followed in the footsteps of those successful performances by the Moroccan and Tunisian folk troupes which acted to the accompaniment of Spanish and French music.

The Jordanian experiment was not so successful, however, in that the group of young Jordanian musicians tried to present "rock music" that did not win the taste of the audience, resulting in a conflict of views and traded criticism.

Thanks to the strenuous efforts of the technicians who ensured light and sound; and the transport sector which guaranteed regular trips, the armed forces and police who secured law and order, the Jerash Festival proved to be a distinguished affair.

Indeed, the success of this year's performances under the new perspective augurs well for the coming seasons which hopefully will be held in an atmosphere of peace where culture can play a most constructive role.

Samoa rediscovers Robert Louis Stevenson

By Geoff Spence
The Associated Press

APIA, Western Samoa — When Robert Louis Stevenson died in 1894, warriors laid down their weapons and carried his body to a mountaintop grave above this ramshackle South Pacific outpost.

Although they revered the best-selling writer as Tusiata — "the teller of tales" — their descendants have all but forgotten him.

Now a group of former missionaries from the United States wants to revive Stevenson's legacy in time for the centenary of his death on Dec. 3.

"He loved Samoa and Samoans loved him. We want to bring some of that back by preserving a piece of history," said Jim Winegar, a director of the Robert Louis Stevenson Foundation, based in Phoenix, Ariz.

Restoration of Stevenson's historic home, Vailima, is under way. There are also plans to fix his neglected tomb. Tourists who climb a steep and slippery rain forest trail up Mount Vaea to visit it are sometimes shocked to see bored teens scratching their names and initials into layers of whitewash on the tomb.

"It's just something everyone does," explained one boy.

Before he died at the age of 44, Stevenson chose the grave site and wrote his own poetic epitaph: "Under the wide and starry sky, Dig the grave and let me lie."

He arrived in 1889, hoping the tropical warmth would stave off tuberculosis caught as a child in the cold mists of his native Scotland.

He fell in love with the country during the last five years of his life.

He learned the language and championed the rights of Samoans against the ambitions of Germany, Britain and the United States. Each wanted to take over the islands which straddled strategically important trans-Pacific shipping routes.

Warships regularly docked at Apia in a show of pre-World War I superpower rivalry.

Foreign envoys meddled in local affairs and tried to pit opposing island clans against one another and triggered tribal warfare. Stevenson, who was awarded chiefly rank, often intervened to bring peace.

"Stevenson was an adviser to our chiefs and had great compassion for Samoans who were fighting among themselves," said Senuli Paul Wallwork, a Samoan member of the foundation's board whose English grandfather knew Stevenson.

All the while he kept writing books, stories, poems and newspaper articles sent by sail boat to publishers in Britain and the United States.

Soon after his death, Germany annexed Western Samoa. The United States took over the smaller eastern islands, which remain American Samoa.

A German governor moved into Vailima and had the house extended.

At the outbreak of World War I, the colony was seized by New Zealand on behalf of Britain. Vailima became home to a long line of New Zealand administrators and then the official residence of Western Samoa's head of state at independence in 1962.

The United Nations now considers Western Samoa as one of the world's least developed countries. Many of its people still lead simple village lives, and most rely on financial support from

relatives who have moved overseas to work.

Apia is a dilapidated capital. Buildings are falling apart. The roads are potholed and dusty.

Apart from one hotel named the Tusitala, there's nothing in the town reminiscent of Stevenson, who regularly strolled its streets.

The once stately Vailima fell into serious disrepair and was almost destroyed by three recent tropical cyclones.

"It was in bad shape when we started," said Mr. Winegar. "When it's complete, it will look much as it did when it was enlarged by the Germans. But inside it will appear very much as it did when Stevenson lived there."

Mr. Winegar and fellow ex-missionaries Dan Wakefield and Rex Maughan spent several years in western Samoa for the Mormon church in the 1960s and now regularly visit the islands to

supervise the project. regularly visit the islands to supervise the project.

The Western Samoan government hopes it will become a tourist attraction for their cash-strapped country.

Mr. Winegar also hopes it will inspire Samoans to learn more about their once beloved Tusitala.

However, restoring a house might prove easier than rebuilding a memory.

Few Samoans have read Stevenson's adventure classics Treasure Island, Kidnapped and The Strange Case Of Dr. Jekyll And Mr. Hyde.

"For somebody so well known around the world, he's not really known about here," said Ulafala Alavao, a Samoan journalist. "His work isn't taught much in schools. Little has been translated into Samoan (language). He was writing for a foreign audience."

Julio Iglesias sings to the world, but shies away from film

By Sue Zeidler
Reuters

PITTSBURGH — Spanish-born megastar Julio Iglesias has racked up nearly 1,000 gold records and is singing to sold-out concert halls on an international tour, yet this humble heart-throb knows his limitations.

"I'm still learning to sing right now. I just want to reach more colours in my voice," Iglesias told Reuters during a recent interview.

Given such modesty, it is not surprising that Iglesias turned down an offer most could not refuse — a chance to star in Oliver Stone's upcoming film version of Evita against Michelle Pfeiffer in the leading role.

"Oliver came to me after a concert in Radio City and proposed the role of Juan Peron," Iglesias said. "I love Oliver Stone very much but it's difficult for me to do something I'm not professional in."

"I'm not an actor and I don't want to feel ridiculous or do something I can't do," he said.

Iglesias has done a little acting, recently appearing in two episodes of the popular U.S. television soap series, General Hospital.

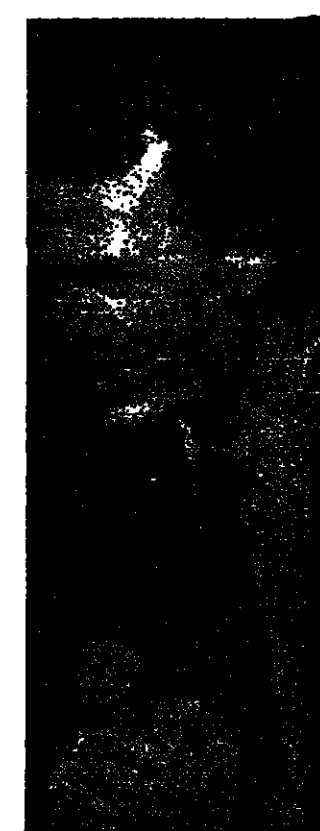
But for the time being, he is busy performing on an international tour featuring many songs from his newly released album Crazy.

This is his fourth English-language album and also includes tunes in Spanish, Portuguese and Italian. Iglesias actually sings in six different languages but said he is just now beginning to feel comfortable singing in English.

"I feel more comfortable singing in English than in Chinese so I guess my English is getting better," he said.

Fifty-year-old Iglesias began singing nearly 30 years ago in Spain and has made 70 albums. His Spanish hits have earned him the bulk of his 960 gold records and 350 platinum records.

Crazy features a duet with Dolly Parton, background vocals by Art Garfunkel and lead guitar and vocals by Sting.



Julio Iglesias

funkel and lead guitar and vocals by Sting.

A video of his duet with Parton is due out in August, and another video featuring Iglesias and Sting is due to be released in October.

Before Iglesias discovered music, he was signed on as a goalkeeper with Spain's professional Real Madrid soccer team.

At the age of 19, he was temporarily paralysed in an automobile accident and a doctor gave him a guitar to entertain himself during a two-year rehabilitation. His life was changed forever.

Iglesias offers few clues about his private life, preferring to say it is non-existent.

"I don't have much of a private life. My life is in music. My home is in the hotel staff. I like the soap very much," he said.

Iglesias said he is currently putting together a compilation album of 85 songs he performed from 1968 to 1985.

"I'm re-recording them all because my singing is better now. My voice was pretty bad back then," he said, adding that he hopes the five-CD collection will be released by the end of 1995.

Study finds high price tag for test-tube babies

BOSTON (R) — Two research teams probing the costs of test-tube babies have concluded that society's price tag for a single successful birth can range from \$50,000 to \$800,000, depending on the circumstances.

Part of that high cost comes from multiple births, which are a common result of using fertility-enhancing techniques, according to the studies, which were published in the New England Journal of Medicine.

The findings "highlight the dilemma of decision-making in assisted reproduction," Dr. John Collins of McMaster Uni-

versity in Hamilton, Ontario, said in an editorial in the journal.

He cautioned that "the procedures are so costly that there is pressure to maximise success." But the techniques for increasing the rate of success may raise the risk of multiple births which, in turn, cause costs to spiral and heighten the risk of adverse effects to the babies and their mothers.

Advocates of fertility treatments are trying to force insurance companies to pay for such treatments, arguing that infertility is no different from other diseases covered by health insurance. Opponents counter that there are insufficient funds for such expensive treatments when couples are not actually ill.

Eight states already require insurance companies to pay for test-tube baby techniques, officially known as "in vitro fertilisation," but the Clinton administration's health plan would not require this.

In the first study, led by Peter Neumann of the Project Hope Centre for Health Affairs in Bethesda, Maryland, researchers examined all costs associated with trying to produce a test-tube baby and concluded that the price

tag for each child born in the first attempt amounted to \$66,667.

If the first attempt is unsuccessful, the price for each baby increases because the success rate declines with each attempt. By the sixth try, the cost of each test-tube baby born jumps to \$114,286.

Dr. Neumann and his colleagues calculated that if in vitro fertilisation were restricted to women whose fallopian tubes had been blocked, the cost is \$50,000 for each child successfully born on the first try, and \$72,727 for each baby born on the sixth try.

Women with fallopian tube blockages are often

the best candidates for in vitro fertilisation.

"For couples in which the woman is older and there is a diagnosis of male-factor infertility, the cost rises from \$160,000 for the first cycle to \$800,000 for the sixth," the researchers said.

In the second separate study, a team led by Tamara Callahan of the National Centre for Infertility Research at Massachusetts General Hospital looked at the added costs for in vitro fertilisation that produces multiple births.

Normally, only about one in 100 pregnancies result in twins. But when in

vitro fertilisation is used, the rate jumps to an estimated 15 to 30 per cent. Having twins or triplets increases the likelihood of complications at birth, or that the newborns will need intensive care.

The Callahan group found that multiple births cost Brigham and Women's Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital over \$3 million in one year. The facilities admit about 2,200 women to give birth each year and in most cases, the extra costs were passed to consumers.

The cost estimates in the studies were based on 1991 dollars.

U.S. spacecraft bears messages from nearly 40,000 earthlings

By Marcia Dunn
The Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — In a high-tech version of sending a message in a bottle, nearly 40,000 people in 50 countries have contributed thoughts and recordings that will be carried in a satellite expected to circle Earth for eternity.

"This is an archive that will await future discovery by an archaeologist or an individual of a future age — archaeology in reverse," said Jim Ferren, director of the not-for-profit Spacearc Project at the Rochester Museum and Science Centre in Rochester, N.Y.

The satellite is scheduled to be launched at 2354 GMT Thursday and will orbit 22,900 miles (35,880 kms) above the Earth.

Some of the estimated 39,800 messages of immortal-

ity that will stay bottled up in space for millions of years came from: Apollo 17 Commander Eugene Cernan, last man to walk on the moon; Mercury astronaut Donald "Deke" Slayton, who died last year; U.S. Vice President Al Gore; more than 200 prisoners; more than 1,000 members of the Compassionate Friends Inc., a support group for parents whose children have died; and more than 1,000 terminally ill youngsters.

"I composed this music dreaming about beautiful future with blue sky, green grass and happy

children," writes 8-year-old Nadia Artamonova from the former Soviet Union.

"It may be that the old astrologers had the truth exactly reversed, when they believed that the stars controlled the destinies of men. The time may come when men control the destinies of stars," writes 76-year-old science fiction writer Arthur C. Clarke.

The dying children were always positive, Mr. Ferren said. "I can deal with anything that's coming my way," they wrote, "but the only thing I worry about is how my parents will feel."

The messages have been coming in since 1988. In many cases, organisations from school districts to the British Broadcasting Corp. and the Voice of America paid the nominal entry fee. NASA promoted the project in classrooms around the world.

The prisoners were contrite: Most of them talked about how much they wished they hadn't screwed up.

No message was refused. Abortion, capital punishment, drugs, religion — you name it, there's a message. Usually extreme: "By the time you find us, we're probably going to be extinct and if we are it's because of the

following reasons..." (Censorship) would have skewed the value, the content of the archives," Mr. Ferren said. "In order to give an accurate position of what our society or civilisation was like in the early 1990s, we left it in there."

For an even broader view, Mr. Ferren enclosed CD-ROMs of Compton's Encyclopedia and the CNN TV programme, 1993: The 100 Defining Moments and a compact disc featuring the music of 18 groups, including Peter Dinklage and Jimi Hendrix.

For Mr. Ferren, the idea of someone finding the capsule someday is the

Recording with a PC

By Jean-Claude Elias

Remember the first recording you made with your radio cassette? You probably picked up your guitar and sang a popular, easy tune. Or maybe you just caught your friends unaware and recorded a casual conversation they had. Later, listening to these simple recordings, again and again, brought you great joy and fun.

If you still have one such recording, made a few years ago, and try to play it back again, chances are you will find it much modified. The cassette tape almost certainly carries more noise (tape hiss) and the bright, high frequencies that are the main characteristics of a live sound have faded, leaving a dull, "muddy" kind of music.

The noise level increase and the high frequencies decrease are only two of the many signs of recordings aging. Not to mention that even when it is fresh (just recorded), a sound on cassette is far from being perfect.

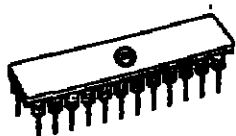
Professional studio recording aside, even home users have other, better alternatives than the inexpensive cassette media. Reel-to-reel tape recorders and, more recently, DAT (Digital Audio Tape) not only offer high quality recording but also ensure a superior long term conservation of the work. Thanks however to its incomparable practicality, availability and price, the cassette remains, by far, the most widely used media and the most well accepted compromise.

Therefore, considering an almost universal demand, it was only normal that software and hardware designers came up with a PC (personal computer) based solution for recording. No product however, prior to this year, came even close to what the average recorder would expect.

All systems available up to 1993 were either highly priced, oriented towards the strictly professional market, or consumer oriented, reasonably priced but fell short of satisfactory specifications.

Four companies, Roland, Cubase, SoundScape and Turtle Beach now propose friendly systems that allow any PC home user to make perfect recordings that are guaranteed to remain unaltered for generations. Turtle Beach's Quad Studio is only \$500 while SoundScape is at \$3,000. Features and characteristics are of course different. Nevertheless, all of the mentioned products allow perfect, first class digital recording. The minimum hardware and software pre-requisite is a 386 PC, a hard disk, 2 MB of memory and MS-

chip talk



Windows.

Basically, any of the above systems will consist of an internal card to install in the PC and a programme to control all the operations. The actual recording is saved on the hard disk, instead of a cassette or a tape. Since the system is digital and computer based, it offers much more than simple recording.

The first, obvious difference is the multi-tracking possibility. On a regular cassette machine, if you record over an already existing material, you automatically, inevitably erase the previous one. On a multi-track system, you record "next" to the existing material. You can for instance start with the piano, then add your voice while listening to the piano, then add strings arrangements, and so on. Once all tracks recorded, a final mix is necessary to ensure a balanced distribution of all parts. The final product can be recorded on a standard tape.

Turtle Beach proposes 4 tracks while SoundScape offers 8. Some systems allow you to manipulate the recorded track to a great extent. Equalisation, for instance, giving the sound more or less treble or bass is an important element of any good recording. Non-destructive operation is equally important. You can make a modification to a track (or part of a track) and listen to its effect before you actually validate it on the hard disk. This gives a greater flexibility when working.

It is worth mentioning that sound cards like Sound Blaster or Sound Galaxy which are great for computer games offer some form of digital recording but are not suitable for real speech or music work for they are limited to a maximum of 60 seconds per stream and do not offer multi-tracking.

Though recording with a PC is certainly not as practical as with a small radio-cassette, the result is infinitely superior. The bottom line is that every person who has a PC will want to experiment and eventually use a PC based recording system, sooner or later.

A letter to the mayor

By E. Yaghi

A few weeks ago, I issued in two separate articles, complaints concerning the state of affairs of a certain circle in Amman. Sad to say, nothing has changed or even improved. Remember the Corn Man who sells in a basement garage planned by the municipality for a highway that never is? Inspectors only see where the smell of money leads them, but if they looked but a bit further, they would find every house behind the circle built without the procurement of a licence. And how dangerously haphazard their structures are, for the owners fear nothing, not even the safety of their own families or their renters.

Rivers of sewage from time to time wind their way down the street that rotates around the circle to the unconcern of health inspectors who never seem to find their way to this heavily populated mountain. I believe if the people fail to press for their rights due them, then it is up to the concerned authorities to ensure that proper health and safety measures are observed by all. What good does it do to encourage the public to boil water for drinking or vaccinate their children against diseases when sewage drains a path of horror down the street or when food vendors sell food that is not fit to eat?

So, Mr. Mayor, what do you think? Do you condone such conditions and advise your public to shut their eyes to wrongs that continue to occur or are there comprehensive health and safety plans that pertain to all regardless of social status? Should trucks be allowed to park in residential areas and litter the area around them with scraps of leftover food and paper? Should unlicensed food vendors continue to sell unclean food that risks the safe health of others and should squatters' shacks which are an eyesore to any area squat to their hearts' content? Is there no alternative housing plan for such individuals? I find it rather depressing that with all the inspectors whose wages are supplied by the taxpayers of Jordan there never seem to be any inspecting unfit conditions in any area at appropriate times. A society must be protected from itself. This is why people cluster together in cities for personal protection, for social needs and to exchange goods and services for the mutual benefit of all.

Calm refreshing evenings find families out to enjoy the circle itself where parents usually sit on the ground as their children play hide and seek behind bushes and benches or skip on the pebbled sidewalk that crisscrosses the concentric park.

The squatters still live in the middle of a highway-to-be and rent to the most suspicious looking characters. The other night, police shot into the air near one of the squatters' renters, and worse yet, a gold store was nearly robbed a few days later. Who knows, for truck drivers still park their vehicles across from the circle next to a bank and have the privilege of observing all activity in and around the circle.

As for the gold store, three men armed with knives, a screw driver and a rope, in broad daylight, approached the goldsmith and tried to physically harass him with perhaps the intent to kill. Three against one is not a good sign. However, the goldsmith fought for his life and managed to deter his attackers

and call for help. The assailants ran away and by the time the police arrived, there was no sign of them.

Isn't it kind of ironic that squatters can build in the middle of any street supplied with electricity, water and sewage illegally while the building immediately next to them is heavily fined if one centimetre is built in a basement garage planned by the municipality for a highway that never is? Inspectors only see where the smell of money leads them, but if they looked but a bit further, they would find every house behind the circle built without the procurement of a licence. And how dangerously haphazard their structures are, for the owners fear nothing, not even the safety of their own families or their renters.

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JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, Aug. 4

8:30 Da Beats On

9:10 Murder She Wrote

10:00 News In English

10:20 Movie Of The Week

Friday, Aug. 5

7:15 Pollution

7:30 The Munsters Today

9:10 E.N.G.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Emile

11:10 Dad's Army

Saturday, Aug. 6

8:30 Movies, Games and Videos

The programme features new games for the futuristic P.C. It also features some of the most recent films such as Sister Act-II; The Aristocrats; Beethoven-2; and Shadowlands.

9:10 One To One

A talk show, hosted by Dr. Ziad Rifa'i. This week his guest is Nawal Fa'ouri, the first and only woman member in the "Shoura" Council of The Islamic Front.

9:30 The Campbells

The Raid

A number of Irish rebels find ways to express their anger against the British

10:00 News In English

Sunday, Aug. 7

8:30 Coach

9:10 Stolen Lives

This last episode provides us with sad news about Sam and James who are both sick, but good news for Dawn.

10:00 News In English

10:20 The House Of Eliott

While Elizabeth and Alexander's relationship deteriorates, the sisters consider a new and a more "public" approach in their designs.

Monday, Aug. 8

8:30 Big Brother Jake

Dinner For Eight

Jake and friends celebrate the coming back of Connie,

who has been away for over 30 years.

9:10 A Galactic Odyssey

A documentary with a touch of science fiction story about exploring the sun via the spaceship Helios.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Matrix

False Witness

11:10 No Job For A Lady

But I voted For You

Labour Party member, Jane, tries to impress her constituents against damaging attempts from the opposing Conservative Party.

Tuesday, Aug. 9

8:30 Hollywood Stunts

The programme takes a behind the scene look at motion pictures "fire" power and a close examination of "the weapons of Hollywood."

10:00 News In English

10:20 The Commish

Do You See What I See?

Commissioner Skali and his vigilant men are after a rapist of wealthy women.

11:00 Rose Against The Odds

The story of how a young Australian aborigine pursues his love for boxing and becomes, with hard training, a famous champion.

Wednesday, Aug. 10

8:30 Harry And The Handersons

Roots

9:10 Documentary — The Nature Of Things

Diabetes, Blood, Sugar, Sweat & Tears

All you need to know about diabetes: diagnosis, treatment and a case study of ethnic Canadian patients, and others in Finland.

10:00 News In English

10:20 The Nanny

Stop The Wedding I Want To Get Off

Mr. Sheffield's sister is to marry a "duke"... or so she tells everybody.

11:10 Poldark

Ross persuades Elizabeth not to marry George, his opponent.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuqair

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

— Albert Einstein couldn't talk until he had been three years old. His father used to describe him as "very stupid" in learning things.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

— In San Diego Zoo, southern California, there lives a kind of monkey which can, at regular times, get away from its cage and then reappear to demonstrate its intelligence to the astounding audience!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

— A young French girl, a secondary student, has been endowed three brains having reached full growth, a phenomenon that has never existed in any living creature since creation. Once "the miracle" girl reads a 1000-page book of any sort, she can learn it by heart from A to Z. Strangely enough, if she gets, for example, an idea about Einstein theory of relativity, she is capable of making — on paper — an atomic bomb!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

— An American woman placed 12 eggs of an Australian ostrich in her coat. After a period of three days it was observed that the eggs had been hatched.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

— An American has invented an automatic arm to be used by waiters who offer services to customers at cafés and restaurants.

LET'S CHAT IN ARABIC

— Sorry: *Assif*
— Excuse me! *Maaziratan!*
— That's all right. *Wahowa kazalik.*
— Not at all/Don't mention it. *La shukran ala wajib./Al-afu.*

— It doesn't matter. *La yahom./Laysa zalika za ahammitya.*
— Pardon? What? *Afwan? Maza?*
— Am I disturbing you? *Hal ar'ajoka?*
— I'm so-sorry to have troubled you. *Assif jiddan le-tr'ajika.*

— Good. That's fine. *Hassan. Haza Jameel.*
— Can I help you? *Hal tahtaj le-ayy maza'ada?*
— No, thank you. I can manage. *La, shukran. Yomkinnoni amal zalik.*

TIME FOR FUN

★ WIFE: "The servant we sacked yesterday had stolen the best towel."

HUSBAND: The best well! Really? Which one?

WIFE: The one we brought with us from the hotel in which we stayed on our last summer vacation.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ POLICEMAN: You claim this young man has taken out your money from the top of your stockings.

PRETTY GIRL: Yes sir.

POLICEMAN: Why didn't you ask for help?

PRETTY GIRL: I didn't know he was groping for money!

COOKING IS FUN

Chickpeas in Sesame Oil

Hummus Bit-Tehina
Ingredients

1 lb 1 1/2 oz. cooked chickpeas.
10 oz. tehina.

7 oz. lemon juice (about the juice of 4 lemons)
1 clove garlic well mashed in part of the salt.
5 tbs. cold water (not quite 2 oz.)
Chopped parsley and red pepper (for decoration)

Method

Mash garlic with salt until fine. Drain chickpeas from water and stir into it the mashed garlic. Mix well. Pour the mixture into a masher (food blender). When it is well mashed add sesame oil (tehina). Gradually add lemon juice which has been strained. Run the entire mixture through a fine strainer forcing it through with a spoon. Serve on shallow plates after decorating with chopped parsley and red pepper. (You can also use some of the unmashed chickpeas for decoration as well as sliced radishes, tomatoes and black olives).

YOUR CHARACTER IN FOCUS

Born on June 2

- Gentle and has a strong imagination.
- Responsive to new thoughts and ideas.
- Abhors fighting, quarrelling or war in any form.
- Diplomatic, a unique negotiator.
- Has a great attraction for books, literature and history.
- Warm-hearted and intensely human.
- Has a very receptive mind and keen intellect.
- Routine work doesn't suit him.

PUZZLES

A. HALF-MINUTE TEASER

These letters when rearranged make the name of two animals.

NO BILL, MA!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

B. TRANS-POSER

Find a word meaning PERIL. Then by transposing the letters, turn it into a word meaning a BIRD.

BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

1. What is the difference between chalk, blackboard chalk, quick lime, slaked lime and hydrated lime?
2. What countries were contained in Hitler's Empire when it was at its zenith?
3. In what games are the following terms used? — Petering, Rubicon, Bob major, Gambit, Bump, Full bed, Selling the dummy, One for his nob.

Stones hope Voodoo Lounge tour can work that old magic



Mick Jagger

By Peter Millership
Reuters

LONDON — Can a Stone still strut and pout at 51 without looking ridiculous?

Thirty years after their first American tour, Mick Jagger and the other mostly middle-aged Rolling Stones are about to set off on a world tour, their biggest yet.

Jagger, three years older than President Bill Clinton, will use the same microphone-swinging swagger to evoke the Stones' magic when the Voodoo Lounge tour, taking the title from the band's latest album, opens in Washington on Aug. 1.

A Stones tour is colossal business and after dozens of shows in U.S. cities they will play in Canada, Latin America, Asia and Europe, hoping to outdo the 1989 Steel Wheels tour which earned \$310 million and a place in the record books.

"It's nice to prove that old boys can still do it," Jagger, who is a grandfather, told an interviewer. "People ask me about the age thing all the time but I don't see why being 50 should stop me from getting up there and doing what I love."

There have been jeers about "wrinklies" and rock critics are asking how long the Stones can roll as the grand old men of rock — an image that would have horrified 1960s rebels.

The free concert in London's Hyde Park in July 1969 and the stabbing to death of a youth by Hell's Angels at a concert in California later that year provided enduring memories for a generation.

Record executives are adamant the Stones are hip again for young record buyers.

Referring to touring, 50-year-old guitarist Keith Richards said: "I'll get a lawyer in a suit and expen-

sive cologne coming up and shaking my hand one minute and some 15-year-old kid is asking me about telecasters (fender guitars) the next."

"By the time the Sex Pistols came along, we were boring old farts and now who is?" he asked.

"We've become interesting old farts. I'm looking at the bands who are on tour this summer and it could be 20 years ago. Pink Floyd, the Eagles."

Bands such as the Black Crowes and Primal Scream have paid tribute to the icons of rock by playing songs in Rolling Stones style. "Very peculiar," was Jagger's verdict. "Nice enough guys but it's still a bit weird."

There were mixed reviews of the hugely successful Voodoo Lounge album released in July, with some critics raving about its raw bar band sound and others writing it off as "the toothless roar of a dying beast."

Tom Lapping wrote tongue-in-cheek: "Ever since (the Who's) Roger Daltrey sang Hope I Die Before I Get Old, the vexed question of whether senior citizens have the right to carry on rocking has nagged away at our acceptance of what is right and dignified."

Rock critics had a field day with references to the band's age: "steel wheelchairs", "senile on main street", "old goat's head soup", "it's oldie rock 'n' roll" and "rickety fingers".

But Guy Cooper enthused in Newsweek: "In between mortgage payments and worrying about mutual funds, it's a treat to have an hour of pure escapism. Play it real loud and please don't try and explain it to anyone. Nice one, lads."

Voodoo Lounge, produced by music business legend Don Was, draws on past Stones classics with a riffing style from

Exile On Main Street (1972), and a bluesy flavour from Let It Bleed (1969).

Fifteen new tracks, composed by Jagger and Richards, include Love Is Strong, You Got Me Rocking, Suck On The Jugular, Blinded By Rainbows and Mean Disposition.

The Stones themselves are bored with rehearsing in Canada and want to get on with the tour, members of their entourage said.

To while away the time, Jagger and drummer Charlie Watts follow the fortunes of the England cricket team, Richards insists the cook gets his shepherd's pie just right and guitarist Ron Wood has Guinness stout shipped in from Ireland.

"They did a sneaky club date in Toronto to waylay the boredom of playing to a blank wall in the little school they're rehearsing in," said Bernard Doherty for the group. "They just

got up and belted it out like at the Marquee (club) in 1965."

Super-fit Jagger, one of Britain's richest men, thrashed out Love Is Strong but it was old hits such as Tumbling Dice, Brown Sugar and Honky Tonk Women that the audience clamoured to hear.

One of the longest surviving acts in rock 'n' roll is touring without original bassist Bill Wyman who has left the group. His replacement is Darryl Jones who has played with Miles Davis and Sting. Doherty was adamant: "He is not a Rolling Stone."

The tour had looked set to push the Stones' U.S. stay over 183 days this year, qualifying them as residents rather than visitors and making their worldwide income taxable in the United States. The choice of Canada for rehearsals prompted the headline "gimme tax shelter."

Indian film censors to crack down on sex scenes

By Narayanan Madhavan
Reuters

NEW DELHI — India, the land of Kama Sutra, is going to crack down on the increasing use of sex and violence by its prolific film industry, a senior official said.

"We'll finalise new guidelines in around ten days. We'll be more specific this time," Shakti Samanta, chairman of India's Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC), told Reuters.

The guidelines are meant to help board members decide on what to let go and what to take out as they censor films before they are allowed into the cinema.

The authorities are

reacting to public protests after a year of increasing sex, saucy songs and violence in the Indian cinema.

Film-makers are protesting the move. Film stars in the southern film centre of Madras staged a march last month.

State government ministers assembled in New Delhi in June to chalk out a plan for the future for a cinema in what is a fairly prudish society and where explicit sex scenes are rare in movies.

"The cinematograph law bans vulgarity, but doesn't say what it is," an Information and Broadcasting Ministry official said. "The southern regional censors made rough guidelines so the produc-

ers won't waste money on things which won't pass."

The Indian film industry, operating mainly out of Bombay, commonly known in India as Bollywood, and Madras, churns out several hundred films every year.

An above-average production costs anything between 10 million to 50 million rupees (\$320,000 to \$1.6 million).

Directors have been told to get scripts cleared in advance.

There is no official word, but southern film-makers were told not to shoot close-ups of female torsos, running of palms over bodies or men and women lying on top of each other.

They were also told not to show bloody violence,

and to keep out fight scenes in front of temples and court buildings.

Such scenes have apparently been inspired by satellite television, which has brought daring videos of the American Music Television (MTV) and soap operas to Indian homes.

"Sex is something you are born with," said Hindi movie star Dev Anand. "You can't be isolated from the world. Fifty years of independence is good enough."

"That doesn't mean you can show nudity," Mr. Samanta said.

Authorities are also cracking down on song lyrics that have sexual double meanings. "The CBFC has been told to

have songs cleared by the board before songs are recorded," the ministry told parliament last week.

Mr. Samanta said the old guidelines were good enough but were not being followed properly, provoking a revision.

"In spite of the guidelines you get those wretched dances," said Hrishikesh Mukherjee, a filmmaker who once headed the censors, in reference to the dances that punctuate Indian films.

He referred to one in which a male and female simulate the sex act with their clothes on. "Were the censors sleeping then?" he asked. "If I did such a song, my parents would throw me out," said young movie star Faisal Khan.

The boldness has shaken even youngsters like Khan in a country where kissing scenes were banned till a few years ago. "I don't mind kissing, but we Indians don't know how to do it. It is not in our culture," Khan said.

A lawyer lost a vulgarity suit on a song which asked, "what lies beneath the blouse?" the answer was, "the heart."

The song provoked a debate on vulgarity.

"What is Indian culture? It is a melting pot. Culture is always shifting," said Anand, who has produced, directed and acted in films for 40 years. "Why are there nude paintings by great artists?"



Dev Anand

Capitalism deals death blow to Russian art colony

By Vanora Bennett
Reuters

MOSCOW — A giant lobster rears its plastic head from the empty fish tank by the wall.

It's the last sign left that this otherwise empty room, waiting to be flattened by the bulldozers roaring outside, was for five years the headquarters of Moscow's most avant-garde artists.

All that is over. Where communist repression failed, brutal post-Soviet capitalism is succeeding in killing off this lively strand of Russian art.

Moscow city authorities, keen to get their hands on the dollars of Russia's new rich, have revived the creative group which won financing in

Western Europe — to build a casino and hotel complex on the prime city centre site.

The death of the Petrovsky Bulvar Artists' Colony has sent what is left of the Russian avant-garde art world into mourning.

Fearful for their future, artists searching for peace, quiet and grants are either emigrating or — in a sad twist of post-Soviet irony — joining the official Artists' Union which was once the butt of all their jokes.

But Alexander Petyura, the commune's leader, isn't giving up yet.

This 39-year-old Peter Pan with wistful blue eyes and an impish grin is still marshalling painters and

musicians at the demolition zone every day, sending them out to trudge the streets looking for empty buildings in which to settle.

Meanwhile, he petitions officials for residence permits.

Petyura says young Muscovites, living in a crime-ridden city swamped by gangsters in sunglasses, carrying pistols and driving Mercedes, need the "flight of the soul" which his "khappening" and "performansi" gave them more desperately than ever.

"Whenever I go into the street I come back in shock," he said.

"I can't bear those people who hang round the bars with those scary

faces, the boys in big cars who yell at you in gutter language. Out there is drugs, crime and people waving knives and pistols. It's terribly frightening."

Petyura's place used to be a courtyard surrounded by shabby but elegant classical buildings. It housed exhibitions, film shows, concerts and parties.

Its regulars careered through the corridors on high-speed wheelchairs and kept their paintbrushes in hollowed-out plaster heads of Lenin.

Umbrellas sprouted from the ceiling. The colony's gleeful blend of the brilliant and the freaky got no financial support from the state, although it earned funding

from cultural authorities in the German cities of Berlin and Potsdam.

Petyura believes his most important achievement was to teach a new generation to believe in inspiration — and fun — could be had without money. He doesn't want to let that knowledge die.

Persuading paper-shuffling civil servants to let it live, by giving Petyura's artists a new home, is another matter. "They prefer to give things to commercial projects so as to earn themselves more money, do you see?" he said grimly. Every empty state-owned building he had identified so far, he added, had been earmarked for sale to a foreign business.

"The Culture Ministry just says: 'OK, we know you, Petyura.'"

"We know that you're very famous for being avant-garde and trendy, so we'll give you a certificate to say you're good. We'll even say you're vital part of Russian culture. But we're not giving you a new home. We can't help you there. We're bureaucrats, and we're being as nice as we can."

New Russia's combination of greed and bureaucracy could prove unbeatable, Petyura said. He said part of the problem was that the unwieldy Culture Ministry also handled sport and tourism, and found it easier to handle the foot-

sia and underground England. That would really get them going."

Outside, Pani Bronya, the old ex-ballerina who has been the colony's grandmother since it opened in 1989, was padding round in her slippers, cigarette in hand, mournfully inspecting the mounds of debris.

"She's taken it hard," Petyura said. "She's at the time of her life when you just mope and smoke," he sighed.

"I don't think we'll be here much longer a couple of weeks maybe, before they get permission to finish the demolition."

Head bowed, he turned and picked his way back through the rubble-strewn courtyard.

ballers and hotels whose value it could assess precisely.

"They throw money at sport if their team loses. But culture is more amorphous. There aren't any matches or finals. You can't lose at culture," Petyura said.

"If only they could think: 'Petyura is a world-champion artist among avant-gardists, hoorah!' then they'd want to help us. Then we could say: 'Look, our culture team have lost to England.'"

He laughed, caught up in a sudden burst of enthusiasm.

"Then we could make up teams of little 'avant-gardiki' in Russian towns. We could have matches between avant-garde Rus-

Lower Alabama seeking to become the new L.A.

By David Tortorano
Reuters

MOBILE, Alabama — There's nothing new about shooting a movie in L.A., unless of course the initials stand for "lower Alabama."

This southern Alabama city on the edge of historic Mobile Bay has designs on becoming a movie centre where filmmakers can come to flee the costs of making movies in California.

It's an industry that has brought \$43 million to the Alabama economy in the past six years, small by the standards in nearby Georgia and Florida. But it promises to grow.

"I think we have a great future," said Eva Golson, director of film and tourism for the second largest

city in the state. "The state of Alabama is open and receptive and aggressively seeking the movie industry."

To say Ms. Golson is a booster is an understatement. She has a T-shirt that on the front lists six movies and says, "filmed in L.A." on the back it identifies L.A. as "lower Alabama."

"It's very popular, and very appropriate," she said about the twist on the well-known initials.

What has excited Ms. Golson the most is the decision earlier this year by former Hollywood producer David Prior to leave Los Angeles and put down stakes in this port city of 20,000 residents.

Mr. Prior, who filmed 10 movies in Mobile before making the move,

and his partners launched Southern Star Studio. He's currently working from temporary quarters, but plans a \$2.5 million studio in the near future.

One movie, Power Play, has already been filmed under the Southern Star banner, and at the end of July the studio begins filming Bioforce One. By all indications, several movies a year will be produced from the Mobile studio.

It's enough to excite state film officials.

Michael Boyer, director of the Alabama Film Office, said Hollywood started looking to Alabama and other locations because of the skyrocketing cost of filming in Los Angeles.

Georgia became a prime location. In 20 years

it has done \$1.8 billion in movie business. Last year there were 17 major feature or TV projects bringing \$189 million to the state, said the Georgia Film Division Office.

Florida is another big player. The Florida Entertainment Commission says that in 1993, 28 features and 42 TV films were shot in the state. In the Orlando area, Universal Studios and Disney-MGM are major producers.

By comparison, Alabama is small change. The state got involved in movies in 1977 with Close Encounters Of The Third Kind. Since then, 35 or 36 films have been shot in Alabama and \$43 million spent on moviemaking, said Mr. Boyer. But most important, two-thirds of the money has been spent

in the last six years, he said.

Films have been shot in Birmingham, Huntsville, Selma and other locations. But the big winner has been Mobile, where 22 movies have been made. Features, documentaries, commercials and made-for-television films have put \$34.3 million in the local economy in the past six years.

Mobile has served as a double for some unlikely locales — New York, Chicago, Los Angeles and Singapore, to name a few. It had a turn, year in 1992 — \$14.1 million was spent here when Under Siege was filmed on the USS Alabama.

Mr. Boyer said that for the first time in the 15-year history of the Alabama Film Office, the state

will see "real growth on an annual basis," thanks primarily to Southern Star.

Mr. Prior has become a hero of sorts for the Alabama film industry. Mr. Boyer first met him in 1988 when the producer was looking for a location to film a movie about Vietnam. The bird sanctuary on Dauphin Island, south of Mobile, was chosen.

Mr. Prior was a writer/director who worked for Action International Pictures or AIP. He was known for getting scenes in one or two shots, saving producers money.

His films went directly to the video market and some went to the European and South American markets, said Mr. Boyer.

He did 10 movies in Alabama for AIP, and

finally decided to come back for keeps. And Southern Star has ambitious plans for the future.

Patrick Gallagher, president of Southern Star Studios, said it has a budget for the next three years for films. It will do three this year, six or seven next year and as many as 10 annually once the studio is running full speed.

Southern Star has already launched itself on the international market. Mr. Gallagher and Mr. Prior went to the Cannes Film Festival in May to market Power Play.

Southern Star ran a full-page advert in the Hollywood Reporter during the festival. The advert had a dark background filled with stars and said: "The future of the motion pic-

ture industry is here... and its name is Southern Star Studio."

"I've already gotten quite a few calls in the last six months... quite a few calls from movie companies that are familiar with David Prior," said Mr. Boyer.

They want to know how he's doing it, said Mr. Boyer.

"In the next two years, you'll see additional films come in to take advantage of the technical crew base," predicts Mr. Boyer. And that, he thinks, is a key to the future.

Having local crews on hand to help with the production of movies can save a studio big money. And that could attract other producers, besides Southern Star, to film here.

Trapped in a vicious circle

By Rima Cortbawi
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Social (if not medical) pressures on the individual include the necessity to have a fat-free physique and to exercise weight control, which probably explains the booming business of diet clinics. Most efforts made, however, to overcome the "fat" problem do not seem to provide a permanent solution and the problem intensifies as the individual becomes trapped in a vicious circle of self-deprivation, food obsession and the inevitable rebound reaction — physical, though in most cases psychological — of regaining the weight lost.

Dr. Manorama Legha, an Indian-born neurologist and psychologist, who published a book on the subject, offers simple reasons why statistics show that 90-98 per cent of dieters revert — having outlived the period of hardship and sacrifice — to their original weight. If they are lucky enough not to overshoot it.

In her book, *The Manorama Formula*, published in 1987, Dr. Legha states that reducing diets, especially ones that work on calorie restriction or enforcement of a certain eating programme, fail in their objective to provide permanent weight reduction, as they clearly defy the natural law of self-preservation and disrupt the normal function of the weight control mechanism of the body.

In a healthy well-treated body with vital metabolic processes, this natural mechanism recruits the conversion of food into the energy the body needs to function efficiently and get rid of excessive supplies while regulating a stable body weight, Dr. Legha maintains.

So prescribed diets, forced exercise for calorie-burning purposes, chemical substances intake and compulsive eating (for any reason other than hunger felt by signals correctly identified in a properly functioning system) are according to Dr. Legha artificial means that only serve to destabilise this natural mechanism.

Hunger and appetite, as the doctor claims, are vital signals of the body's energy needs and must therefore be fulfilled. The adverse effect of neglecting these natural signals, while following an "artificial" diet, includes an obstacle to implement the decision of

weight loss, as it triggers a restoration mechanism which will eventually lead to compulsive eating.

Appropriate selection of food is then linked to past experiences as well as to the real needs of the body, which are best known by the individual. Most educated people know that a healthy body needs a supply of fats, proteins, carbohydrates, minerals, vitamins and water in their daily food intake and are aware of the wide range of foods from which these can be obtained.

Also, about exercise the doctor believes that the rewarding muscular activities obtained while walking, working or playing sports can be self-defeating if imposed exclusively for the purpose of weight reduction.

According to Dr. Legha, the pain in the hunger of dieting or continued exhaustive exertion can easily be spared by realising that ideal weight can only be permanently maintained by resorting to normal means as dictated by nature and laid down at birth.

The great majority of healthy people have normal weight, and those who are overweight were normal in the past. Even when fluctuations in weight occur, Dr. Legha assures, this transitory phase of weight gain will correct itself in the course of time provided no weight loss was enforced by abnormal means such as restrictive diets, exaggerated exercise or the use of drugs.

Such artificial interventions might have a temporary effect, but in the long run, resorting to them will prevent the operation of the normal corrective mechanisms of the body and lead to weight gain, harsh diets causing physical and psychological harm and entrapment in this vicious circle, in which obsession with food comes in to play.

Active discard to reducing diets and the concentration on obtaining maximum pleasure from food (especially when appropriate amounts of it are consumed in response to unmistakable signals of need from the body) are offered by Dr. Legha as essential starting points that should be applied in the aim to reach and maintain an ideal weight. This ideal weight the doctor writes, cannot be determined by any fixed measures created by the fashion industry, as it is related to many factors and varies from one individual to another.

Probably the real criterion for ideal weight is, as the doctor concludes: "The weight at which the face looks most attractive."

Researchers identify gene responsible for type of dwarfism

LOS ANGELES (AP) — U.S. researchers have located the genetic defect responsible for about a third of all dwarfism cases, creating shortened limbs in about 1 in 20,000 people.

Scientists at the University of California, Irvine (UCI), found the gene that causes achondroplasia just six weeks after they began looking for it. Three other teams had narrowed the search to the end of human chromosome No. 4.

"It's a lot of luck, but

also the fact we'd laid a huge amount of groundwork," Dr. John Wasmuth, a biological chemist at the UCI College of Medicine, said.

The results appear in the latest issue of the journal *Cell*.

For several years, Dr. Wasmuth and his team had suspected the gene, called *FGFR3*, was responsible for a defect that causes Huntington's disorder. But they found no link. They took another look after the other re-

searchers suggested the same chromosome region might harbour the achondroplasia gene.

"It's spectacular that he pulled off in record time," Dr. Francis Collins, director of the National Centre for Human Genome Research in Bethesda, Maryland, said in a telephone interview.

The defective gene contains a tiny bit of incorrect information that Dr. Wasmuth likened to "changing one letter in a word in a paragraph." That information causes muta-

tions in bone growth, producing a normal-sized trunk and but shortened limbs.

A parent with the disorder has a 50 per cent chance of passing a single defective gene to a child, who may develop spinal and joint problems while staying generally healthy.

When both parents have it, the child has a 25 per cent chance of inheriting two copies of the flawed gene, which "invariably results in a stillbirth or a child dying one or two days after birth," Dr. Wasmuth said.

Who is most likely to have a heart attack? Can you change your life to protect your health?

Running at high risk

By John Lilman

ABOUT 330,000 people in Britain have a heart attack each year, according to the British Heart Foundation. Why does one person suffer an attack while another — who might even be a smoker — seems immune to the risks?

The biggest risk factors are our times and culture. In 1910 the famous Canadian physician William Osler told the Royal College of Physicians that, among 2,000 medical cases admitted to St. Bartholomew's Hospital in London, there had been two cases of angina. In 1930, coronary heart disease (CHD) accounted for only about one per cent of deaths in the United Kingdom. The figure is now about 30 per cent.

Non-western industrial countries provide more recent evidence of the effects of diet and culture. Although Jamaica has been more than 30 years independent from Britain, it has not cut all the old cultural ties: and Jamaicans who used to work for rich whites have developed an insatiable appetite for the "Western way of death." They eat and smoke the same kind of things as we do, associating them with affluence. Dr. Knox Haggley, director of the department of social and preventive medicine at the University of Jamaica said: "If a patient had a heart attack in the sixties, we'd call in all the medical students to see him because we didn't know when we'd see another. It was so unusual." Not any more.

Risks fall into two categories: those that we can do something about and those we cannot. MALENESS: Being a man has long been recognised as a prime risk, but women are at risk after the menopause, when they lose the protective effect of the hormone oestrogen. In 1990 in the U.K. 22,017 men and 5,713 women aged 64 or under died from heart disease. But the divide is closing, with more women smokers assuming the risk profile of men. Age: Risk increases steadily with age. In 1990, in the 65-74 age group, there were 30,000 deaths among men and 16,438 among women.

FAMILY HISTORY: Hereditary factors have a big influence, especially when CHD occurs at a young age. Some families have a genetic defect which can affect the way the liver handles cholesterol. Genetic risks are sometimes confused with those which derive from a shared, and traditionally unhealthy, environment — a fatty diet or smoking. SMOKING: Estimated to account for 20 per cent of CHD deaths. A third of adults in Britain smoke. Many experts believe that the fall in tobacco consumption is the single biggest contribution towards the fall in CHD deaths, but they emphasised the importance of the overall picture: People with high blood pressure are three times more likely to have a heart attack. — People with high blood pressure, who also have raised cholesterol levels, have a ninefold increase in risk. — People with high blood pressure, and raised cholesterol levels, and who also smoke have a risk 16 times higher than average.

HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE: This can damage the arteries and is common in the U.K. DIET: Cholesterol is the alleged villain of the



"In any hour, if you are male and don't smoke you have a one in a million risk of a heart attack. Without exercise, the risk is one in 10,000"

piece. It has had such a bad press that it is easy to forget that it is an essential part of all our cells, and two-thirds of the 150 grammes in each of us are made by our own bodies. The cholesterol hypothesis emerged in the sixties, marking a dramatic decline in CHD deaths in the U.S. Between 1963 and 1975, deaths among Americans aged 37-65 fell by a quarter. This same period was marked by striking changes in the foods Americans ate: — Milk and cream, 19 per cent down. — Butter, 31 per cent down. — Eggs, 12 per cent down. — Animal fats, 56 per cent down. Vegetable fats — polyunsaturated margarines and oils, 44 per cent up.

It was easy to conclude that dairy products were bad news. But heart disease deaths had fallen before these changes, and the new diet may have added to the momentum. A 22 per cent fall in tobacco consumption may have helped, as might have new drugs to control high blood pressure. Manufacturers are still debating the relative merits of butter and margarine. In an extensive advertising campaign last month, the Butter Council claimed: "For nearly two decades, margarine manufacturers have been arguing that their products are good for you and that butter isn't. Recent research has flattened their arguments." This claim was based on research into trans-fatty acids. They are produced when manufacturers want to turn vegetable oil into something that can be spread rather than poured, and are found in many different types of food. These include cereals, baby food, sliced bread and fast foods. Spreads, especially margarine, are the largest source, accounting for nearly a third of the total consumed. Professor Walter Willett, of Harvard University, controversially claims that an intake of five grammes of trans-fatty acids daily increases the risk of heart disease by 35 per cent. On average, British men eat about 5.6 grammes a day and women about four grammes. But no expert report on healthy eating in the last

is reduced smoking. LACK OF EXERCISE: Research that exercise can prevent heart disease has been accumulating since the forties. The first major study compared the health of thousands of London bus drivers and conductors. Drivers, sitting in their cabs all day, had far more heart attacks than the conductors, whose jobs involved going up and down the stairs. But the experience of Finnish lumberjacks, whose jobs were far more demanding than those of the conductors, shows that exercise will not make you immune to the ill effects of an unhealthy diet and smoking. Research suggests that, in any hour, if you are male, do not suffer from diabetes and do not smoke, your risk of a heart attack is about one in a million. Without exercise, the risk is about one in 10,000.

It seems that to be of benefit, exercise must be regular (three or more times per week for half an hour) and sufficiently taxing to cause sweating and some breathlessness. OBESITY: Just being overweight does not seem to increase overall risk. But overweight people may also have high blood pressure and raised blood cholesterol. There is evidence that it is not necessarily the weight that is the problem, but where the fat goes. To the belly is worst.

CLOTTING FACTORS: Three years ago, doctors identified a new risk. Clotting factors in the blood, particularly fibrinogen, can increase the risk. When tissues are damaged, fibrinogen is broken down into fibrin monomers, the building blocks for blood clots. The higher the level of fibrinogen in the blood, the more likely it is that clots will form, and the larger any clots will be. Most research has been into people who have had heart attacks. It could be just as important to find out why people don't have them. One thing has been established — that people who take regular exercise tend to be the very same people as those who are not overweight, and watch their diets. This makes it hard to disentangle one risk factor from another — The Guardian.

Doctors used to be especially susceptible to heart attacks and attributed this to work-induced stress. Heart attacks are now below the average among doctors: this is unlikely to be because their stress has fallen. A more likely reason

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ANSWERS

PUZZLES

(A) HALF-MINUTE TEASER
LAMB - LION

(B) TRANS-POSER
DANGER-GANDER.

BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

- Chalk is the natural mineral, CaCO_3 , calcium carbonate; blackboard chalk is CaSO_4 , calcium sulphate, a manufactured article, quick-lime is chalk burnt in a kiln, CaO , calcium oxide; slaked lime is quick-lime treated with water, calcium hydroxide, $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$; hydrated lime is another name for slaked lime, and a higher price is usually charged for it.
- In the late summer of 1942 Hitler controlled Germany, Austria, and Czechoslovakia; he had conquered Denmark, Norway, Holland, Belgium, France, Yugoslavia, Greece, the Channel Islands, Poland and the west of the USSR, including Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania; he had his satellite-allies Finland, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and Italy with her "Empire" of Albania, Libya, and the conquered western part of Egypt. French North Africa was also his.
- Petering in bridge.
- Rubicon in piquet.
- Bob major in bell ringing.
- Gambit in chess.
- Bump in rowing.
- One for his nob in cribbage.
- Full bed in shove halfpenny.
- Selling the dummy in rugby football.

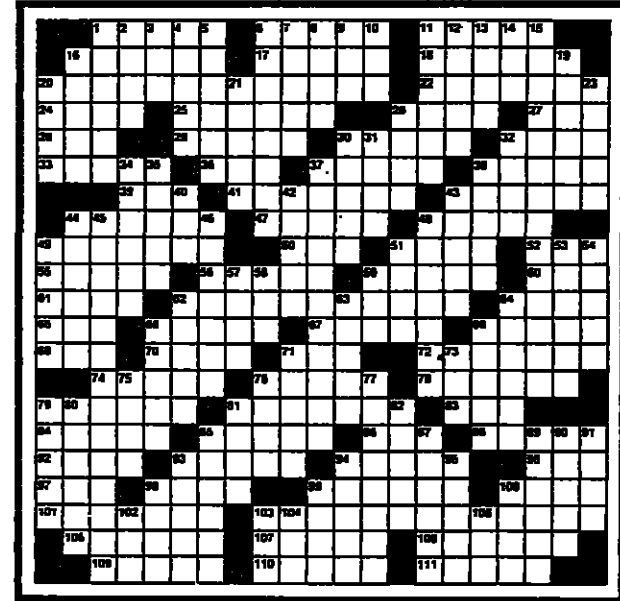
WEEKEND CROSSWORD

A NUMBER OF THINGS

By Daniel L. Stark

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Last Week's Cryptograms

1. Boom in reading of great classics is welcomed warmly by library staff.
2. A beach thrash, rushing really through thick break in search of fresh fruit, crashes, his shell badly crushed.
3. Electric wires cut across wondrously pretty landscape.
4. Insect tormented finds himself trapped on the horn of a dilemma.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. J W A L J W A P D L M K H D V B E Y B D A L B Q Q L
H M A W C W Q P V E A W I B K E E W M D Y X E D
S K I P D Y Z Q H L J E L C W K A L V H E Z W X H
K P S P V M Q W M L Q E J P Y J K E X B P M X.

—By Earl Ireland

2. C I E A R E L Y A R P N B I S B E S K L Y I S E
I C C O N I A R Y A D E N F O L D E D F L E A
N F E D E R E Y A R K A I S E D.

—By Ed Haddad

3. S E M E G O W O O G C T O M Y O G O N Y S N W C L S L O W
E W C R Y L B C R U N D Y C N G L C H R L W B O G
B U Y B O G.

—By Frank N. Stein

4. M O Z A R T M Z A C M T Y Z E C O Y Z L E N E C U R T Z
C Z U U N L T.

—By Barbara J. Ross



SOLUTIONS OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZLES



Abequa charged with killing, kidnap

AMMAN (AP) — A Jordanian who, by own admissions, fled the United States to Jordan after killing his wife on July 4 was formally charged Wednesday with first-degree murder and the kidnapping of his young children.

The indictment was issued two days after the victim's sister, Nesime Dokur, or Paterson, New Jersey, arrived in Amman seeking custody of her six-year-old niece, Lisa Abequa, and nephew, Sami, 3.

Ms. Dokur, an American Muslim of Turkish descent, would not comment on the charges filed against her sister's husband, Mohammad Ismail Abequa, also a naturalized American citizen.

Ms. Dokur was escorted by policemen to Amman's King Abdullah Mosque Wednesday where she took part in noon prayers.

"I came to pray and get some peace, pray for the safe return of the children, and pray for my dead sister so she can rest in peace," Ms. Dokur said tearfully as she emerged from the mosque, carrying a copy of the Koran.

She said mosque preachers gave her the book.

Sharon Waxman, a legislative aide to New Jersey Senator Frank Lautenberg, said news of Mr. Abequa's indictment came from U.S. Ambassador Wesley Egan who met Wednesday with Justice Ministry officials. She spoke after accompanying Ms. Dokur to the mosque.

Prosecutor-General Mansour Klobb later confirmed her account.

"Mr. Abequa was charged with first-degree murder and

kidnapping," he told the Associated Press.

Lawyers said that the charges carry a maximum penalty of 20 years in jail at hard labour.

Mr. Abequa, 46, has confessed to killing his wife, Nihai, 40, at her Parsippany-Troy hills, N.J., apartment on July 4 in a dispute over the custody of the couple's two children.

The body of his wife was found two days later stuffed under a bed, Mr. Abequa had fled with the children to Jordan, where he was arrested July 20.

The United States has demanded his extradition, but in the absence of an extradition treaty between the two countries, Jordan was likely to try him here.

Ms. Dokur has been campaigning for custody of the children, now in the care of their paternal grandmother, Samiha, Mr. Abequa's family has vowed to fight her in court.

King Hussein last month invited her to come to Jordan to present evidence in court that she was financially able to care for the youngsters, an indication she might win the case.

Nancy Feinberg, a lawyer, accompanied Ms. Dokur to Amman, Monday and has been trying to find a lawyer to represent her client. Jordanian law prohibits foreign lawyers from appearing at tribunals in the Kingdom.

The custody case is expected to be heard by an Islamic Sharia court. Feinberg said Tuesday a hearing might be held in a week.



RETURN HOME: His Majesty King Hussein on Wednesday inspects a guard of honour mounted at Amman airport upon

his return home after visits to the U.S. and London (see page one) (Photo by Yusef Al 'Allan)

U.N. body hails peace progress, says settlements illegal, obstacle

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations has, for the first time, adopted a political statement expressing full support for the progress achieved in the Palestinian-Israeli and Jordanian-Israeli tracks in the 33-month-old Middle East peace process and calling on all parties to implement agreements reached.

The council, which held a session in New York June 27-July 29, "stressed the need for achieving rapid progress on the other tracks of the Arab-Israeli negotiations... and urged member states to provide economic, financial, and technical assistance to the Palestinian people" during the interim period envisaged under the Sept. 13 accord between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

In another resolution, on the economic and social repercussions of the Jewish settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories including Jerusalem and Syria's Golan Heights, the council said that the settlements were "illegal and an obstacle to economic and social development," a U.N. press release said.

"It also reaffirmed the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and the population of the Syrian Golan to their natural and all other economic resources and regarded any infringement of that as illegal," the press release said.

The representative of Germany, speaking on behalf of the European Union, agreed that the council's new experimental procedures had worked well to increase its efficiency and effectiveness, although room for improvement still remained.

The representative of Algeria, on behalf of the "Group of 77" developing countries and China, said the experimental nature of the council's organisational work should be evaluated at the next organisational session.

The final assessment of the reform and revitalisation of the council should be taken up in more depth.

During the 1994 session, the 54-member council followed a new four-segment format.

By a resolution on further measures for the restructuring and revitalisation of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields the assembly decided that the economic and social commit-

tees of the council would be subsumed into the plenary, and the substantive session would consist of a high-level segment, a coordination segment, an operational activities for development segment and a general segment that would include mainly two items — social, humanitarian and human rights questions; and economic and environmental questions.

On the recommendation of the Commission on Human Rights, the council extended the mandates of several special and thematic rapporteurs and approved the creation or appointment of special rapporteurs on the independence and impartiality of the judiciary, on human rights situation in Zaire, and on violence against women. It requested the secretary general to extend and widen the mandate of the independent expert to assist his special representative for Somalia through the development of a long-term programme of advisory services for human rights and the rule of law in that country.

The council also heard a report from Jose Ayala Lasso, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, on his first three months in that position.

Stating that one of his greatest challenges was promoting the realisation of the right to development, he said the implementation of such a right entailed the search for more effective ways of protecting economic, social and cultural rights. It was often the violation of those rights which set the

stage for violations of civil and political rights, which were also components of the right to development.

Acting on the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the council urged states to take prompt and effective steps to frustrate the objectives and activities of smugglers of illegal migrants, thus protecting would-be migrants from exploitation and loss of life. It recommended that states consider prohibiting the export of products that have been banned from domestic use because of their impact on the environment. It also suggested issues to be discussed at the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (Tunis, 24-April - 5 May 1995), including ways of sensitising representatives of the mass media to the "criminogenic effects" of graphic portrayals of violence and to the possible effects of sensational news coverage on the fairness of criminal trials.

Concerning humanitarian assistance, the council requested all organisations and programmes of the United Nations system to intensify their assistance for the reconstruction and development of Lebanon, especially in the technical and training fields; and urged all states to participate in the implementation of programmes for the recovery and reconstruction of areas and sectors affected by the cyclones and floods that have affected Madagascar.

confirming the meeting as he has not yet seen the plans for opening the new crossing point between Jordan and Israel.

Responding to a question, the King said progress on the Israeli-Syrian track of the negotiations depends on the presence of a true desire to move forward, saying he believed there was commitment by Syria to the achievement of peace and that Israel was determined to move forward in order to achieve comprehensive peace.

The King said he would do everything possible "on the personal level" to alleviate the suffering of the Palestinian people, especially detainees in Israeli jails when asked about talks he had with Mr. Rabin over the issue.

King Hussein, who discussed Jordanian-U.S. relations with President Bill Clinton during his visit to Washington, said the U.S. responsiveness to Jordan's economic and military needs was "very good."

He said there was an agreement to deal with Jordanian debts on stages over a period

King returns home after historic step

(Continued from page 1)

The King stressed the historic link between the Hashemites and the Holy City, saying Jordan was linked to Jerusalem by Jordanians who sacrificed their lives defending the city in 1948 and in 1967.

"Jerusalem is also the burial place of (Sharif Hussein) the father of the revolution whose history, struggle and martyrdom for the sake of Palestine," is known to all, the King said.

The King said Jordan had never given up its role in caring for the holy sites in Jerusalem.

"When this reality is acknowledged by those who fought us for long years, it is the greatest tragedy to see (those) who throw doubts and question and condemn and we do not say that Palestine is ours... Palestine is for its people but the holy sites belong to the whole Muslim Nation," the King told reporters, saying that the recogni-

tion in the Washington Declaration of the religious sovereignty of the Hashemites over the holy sites in Jerusalem was "a recognition of reality."

King Hussein said the holy sites in Jerusalem should be placed above political considerations so that sovereignty over them "will be to God" and Jerusalem will be "the land of peace to all worshippers of God."

"When I decide to go to Jerusalem as a Hashemite, as a Muslim and as a Jordanian I will not ask permission from anybody. This is my right," the King told reporters in response to a question, noting that he was invited to Jerusalem and "there were those who got upset and those who were pleased" about these invitations.

Responding to a question on whether his flight over Jerusalem represents the opening of Jordanian and Israeli air space to air traffic from both countries, the King said he hoped this issue

would be resolved soon, because this would be the normal situation in light of the enormous savings in time and resources that the opening of the route would entail for both Jordanians and Israelis as well as the aviation industry in general.

"I hope this issue will be dealt with soon and surely this will be the natural path... we have been detouring all over the world for the past 46 years," the King said.

King Hussein said Jordan was moving towards the attainment of just and comprehensive peace after it entered the peace talks with the approval of groups and elements that represent all the Jordanian people.

Asked about news reports that he will meet with Mr. Rabin in Aqaba next week to launch the building of a road linking Aqaba to Eilat, the King said "I believe I will meet the Israeli prime minister shortly (and the meeting in Aqaba) is possible." But the King said he could not

Crown Prince urges research sabbaticals

(Continued from page 1)

format for evaluation and corrective adjustment, specifically as related to the various bodies responsible for development in general and science and technology in particular aiming to rate our achievements institutionally and by programme.

Thirdly: Concerning the excellence of Jordanian universities, specially as we are living the experiment of private universities. The time has come to agree on the distribution of roles between the universities and the exploitation of strengths or in-

centives of distinction. We might then build upon that in the field of advanced studies and scientific research.

In line with scientific and technological progress, we need to make use of modern technologies for instruction, departing from the traditional patterns of the vocational dimension of higher education. I believe that we have diminished many concepts and taken them out of the context of their original purposeful expression. One example of this is the subject of sabbaticals. This was originally meant to give faculty

members the chance to achieve or follow up research and initiatives otherwise not allowed for the burden of the instructional workload. What is taking place now is that sabbaticals have been transformed into "instructional occupation or preoccupation" and have become an outlet to another temporary post.

Scientific research is tied to the two elements previously cited. There is no harm in admitting that most research effort at our universities is directed at a basic level. There is no shame in this

except that it does not serve our developmental directives and our sectorial needs in the short term.

It might be feasible to see if it would be possible to free a limited number of faculty members to undertake research according to priority. The Higher Council would share in financing this sabbatical in cooperation and collaboration with the universities.

Our realisation of the significance of science and technology as a cornerstone for the achievement of development and the consolidation of comprehensive national security requires elucidated

Yemeni socialists denounce exiled leaders for war

SANAA (AP) — Members of the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) denounced in a statement Tuesday their exiled leader's performance during the country's civil war, indicating a widening rift among southerners after their defeat by the north.

The statement was signed by the "Secretariat of the Supreme Committee" of the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP), but gave no indication as to who or how many members attended the session.

But sources close to the meeting said among those present were Fadi Mohsen, a pre-war minister of fisheries, Parliament Member Ayad Muqbil and Mohammad Mansour Abu Asbou, a member of the party's ruling politburo.

The statement contained a scathing criticism of Ali Salem Al Beidh, the party leader who fled the southern stronghold of Aden fell to rival northern troops, bringing the Yemen civil war to end July 9.

During the war, Mr. Beidh announced the south's secession and formed a separatist government.

"Secession was an unpatriotic act and was unconstitutional, and it violated the party programme and its unionist and nationalist role," Tuesday's statement said. "The party's legitimate bodies were not involved in the secession decision."

It said the party "rejects any political opposition that bases itself abroad," warning that such a formula would enable "foreign forces" to interfere in Yemen's domestic affairs.

Mr. Beidh is presently in Oman along with some of his aides. Other southern leaders

have fled to Saudi Arabia, Djibouti, Egypt, Syria and the United Arab Emirates.

Mr. Beidh has not appeared in public since his arrival in Muscat, where aides say he is recuperating from exhaustion.

His deputy, Saleh Saleh, who is in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, said Monday 64 of party leaders would meet soon in Syria or the UAE.

The statement from socialists still in Yemen called for dialogue to resolve political problems with the leadership of President Ali Abdulla Saleh, a northern who fought the south to salvage the country's May 1990 union.

The statement appeared to be an attempt to mend fences with Sanaa and ensure a future role for the YSP in the country.

It said the May secession declaration "represents on those who made it the individual capacities... and considered a departure from the party."

Sanaa has said that favoured dialogue with unionist members of the YSP and would only include those members who declared unambiguous opposition to the secession in a new coalition government.

Out of the YSP's 24 politburo members, only six are in Sanaa, but Mr. Asbou, a YSP parliamentary member, told Reuters that "the statement reflects the opinion of the majority of the YSP politburo."

The statement of condemnation was expected to pave the way for an expanded national reconciliation talks between President Seif al-Islam and the YSP.

Hilal Hospital plans JD100,000 expansion

By Elia Nasrallah

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Hilal Hospital on Wednesday awarded a local engineering firm a contract for preparing designs for its renovation of the maternity ward at the cost of JD 4,800.

Mohammad Hadid, president of the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) which is in charge of the hospital, told the Jordan Times that the designs will entail engineering, architectural, civil and other works. It is expected to be completed in two months time when the JNRCS would embark on the construction work which would eventually cost JD 100,000.

Dr. Hadid will visit several countries on a fundraising mission in August 20 during which he would also seek to raise additional funds to finance the purchase of more equipment for the hospital.

On Wednesday, Dr. Hadid presented a gift of a \$30,000 ambulance from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to help transport the sick to and from the King Hussein Bridge on their way to and from the West Bank.

The gift was presented to Dr. Hadid by the head of the ICRC delegation's Amman office, Marco Sassoli.

The JNRCS in coordination with the ICRC, annually transports an average of 1,000 patients to and from the bridge, Dr. Hadid said.

The steps Jordan has taken in the peace process (see separate story).

King Hussein was received at the airport by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath, His Royal Highness Prince Faisal, His Royal Highness Prince Ghazi, Ben Mohammed, Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali, and other members of the Royal Family and senior officials.

Arriving home with the King were Her Majesty Queen Noor, His Royal Highness Prince Talal Ben Mohammed, the military secretary of the King, Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'ad Ben Zeid.

King Hussein, who was greeted upon arrival by a 21-gun salute, inspected a guard of honour before proceeding to the Royal Palace through crowded streets on which people were lined to greet him and banners expressing support to the King and his leadership were raised.

King Hussein arrived home as 47 deputies expressed support for his leadership and

planning of the investment of scientific and technological capacities. This was the purpose of convening the Jordanian science week. In this field, I wish to stress the positive elements of the Armed Forces' experiment and the necessity of benefiting from it. As you know our Armed Forces, in the course of their participation in the peacekeeping forces in various locations worldwide, have gained a special level of respect and a good reputation due to their distinctive commitment and the speed of their adaptability to the duties and responsibilities to which they are entrusted.

In addition to the effective role undertaken by the Armed Forces in the developmental process, the strategy built upon its future direction for the development and enhancement of this role must take into account continuing collaboration and cooperation with our national scientific institutions to demonstrate capacities and capabilities on the one hand and to demonstrate needs on the other.

Following the opening of the seven day meeting, the Crown Prince opened a science and technology exhibition and toured its sections.

كنا في ايد

Financial Markets

Jordan Times
in cooperation with
Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close	Tokyo Close
Sterling Pound	1.5355	1.5359
Deutsche Mark	1.5825	1.5846
Swiss Franc	1.3375	1.3384
French Franc	5.4080	5.4132**
Japanese Yen	102.34	100.33
European Currency Unit	1.2060	1.2075**

USD Per SJD
European Opening: 8.90 a.m. GMT

Source: 3/6/1994

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	4.25	4.50	4.93	5.37
Sterling Pound	5.00	5.25	5.50	6.51
Deutsche Mark	4.68	4.68	4.68	4.67
Swiss Franc	4.60	4.12	4.18	4.37
French Franc	5.25	5.27	5.50	5.66
Japanese Yen	1.95	2.06	2.06	2.25
European Currency Unit	5.88	5.81	6.03	6.31

Interbank bid rates for currencies trading U.S. dollars: 1,000,000 or equivalent

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6940	0.6960
Sterling Pound	1.0646	1.0699
Deutsche Mark	0.4379	0.4401
Swiss Franc	0.5183	0.5209
French Franc	0.1283	0.1289
Japanese Yen	0.6915	0.6950
Dutch Guilder	0.3900	0.3920
Swedish Krona	*****	*****
Italian Lira	0.0439	0.0441
Bulgarian Franc	*****	*****

Per 100

Other Currencies

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.8250	1.8420
Lebanese Lira	0.040345	0.041885
Saudi Riyal	0.1847	0.1861
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.3100	2.3500
Qatari Riyal	0.1894	0.1917
Egyptian Pound	0.2050	0.2250
Omani Rial	1.7540	1.7990
UAE Dirham	0.1854	0.1893
Greek Drachma	0.2625	0.3125
Cypriot Pound	1.3645	1.4965

Per 100

Beirutis developing taste for Solidere stock

BEIRUT (R) — Shares in the Lebanese company set up to rebuild central Beirut devastated by civil war have risen the maximum five per cent again and bankers said Beirutis were developing a taste for the stock.

Continuing their six-week surge since the market opened, \$100 A and B shares of Solidere, Lebanon's only traded company, were fixed at \$138-7/8 compared with \$132-3/8 Monday.

The shares have not fallen since trading began on June 23 — ending an 11-year gap in Beirut equities trading — and a chief broker at a major Lebanese bank said their performance was beginning to entice ordinary Beirutis.

"People who had no knowledge of shares before are showing interest because they're seeing a rapid gain," said the banker, who asked not to be identified.

"There's increased interest. There's not a lot of it

but typically we're getting a lot of medium to small-size investors," he said. "I'm getting housewives coming in and saying 'I'll bring money, \$15,000, and I'll just buy.'"

Solidere is Lebanon's biggest company, formed this year with \$1.8 billion capital to rebuild central Beirut shattered by the 1975-90 civil war. Demolition work has begun, but no date has yet been set for the rebuilding.

Bankers and brokers recommend Solidere shares as a solid long-term investment.

But despite dawning public enthusiasm they say all is not yet quite right with the fledgling Beirut secondary market.

Daily trading volume is tiny and supply of Solidere shares is dramatically short of demand, chiefly because market regulations restrict daily price rises and discourage shareholders from selling on a one-way upward market.

The market opened in June with a five per cent upward and downward price limit at the daily fixings. Last Thursday, after weeks of steady upward progress, the supervisory committee suddenly slashed the daily price fluctuation limit to 2.5 per cent to try to calm the market.

Instead, the measure stifled supply and created unnatural demand. Investors anxious to jump on the bandwagon but aware that they would get only a small proportion of the shares they applied for, inflated their ap-

plications accordingly.

In less than a week the ratio of sell orders to demand plunged from 31 per cent to 1.4 per cent and bankers and stockbrokers began calling for full liberalisation of the market.

On Tuesday, after Solidere shares had almost disappeared from the market, the committee restored the five per cent limit. But the reversal failed to tempt back sellers.

At Tuesday's fixing only 175 A shares and 1,456 B shares changed hands against

demand for 33,600 A and 103,326 B shares.

Nabil Aoun, chairman of the Lebanese Stockbrokers Association, said fixings and the daily limit should be dropped in favour of continuous trading to restore normal volume.

"I think we need a completely free price without any limit up or down," said Aoun. "I am against fixing the price. For a while it was necessary as a first step, but now we should turn to continuous trading."

A banker echoed Mr. Aoun's call for liberalisation. "What I think would be the best idea would be a continuous trading system, open outcry, where everyone shows their bid and offer instead of a price fixing," he said.

"If they do this I expect the price to go up quite rapidly, but at least it would reflect the true market which is not the case now," he added. "If the market was freed you would get price swings that would make people appreciate the risks of the market."

UAE slashes overseas bank deposits

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Low interest rates and economic recession in most industrial countries have forced the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to cut its bank deposits abroad by more than half to switch to more profitable investments, the central bank said Tuesday.

Bank deposits were slashed from 12.1 billion dirhams (\$3.3 billion) at the end of 1992 to 5.9 billion dirhams (\$1.6 billion) at the end of 1993, the bank said in a report on its 1993 financial operations.

"Due to instability in world financial markets in 1993, continuation of economic recession in most industrial states and expectations of a further decline in interest rates on deposits, the central

bank decided to concentrate its investment in more feasible financial instruments," it said.

It said most of the money removed from the banks were invested in bonds and bills, which surged by 103.3 per cent to 15.4 billion dirhams (\$4.19 billion) in 1993 from 7.6 billion dirhams (\$2.07 billion) in 1992.

Around 10 billion dirhams (\$2.72 billion) were invested in treasury bills in 1993 compared with 3.5 billion dirhams (\$953 million) in 1992, an increase of 187.6 per cent, the report said.

Investment in government bonds also grew by 7.6 per cent to 4.2 billion dirhams (\$1.14 billion) from 3.9 billion dirhams (\$1.06 billion).

The UAE is one of the biggest investors of the Middle East, helped by large financial surpluses during the oil boom of late 1970s and early 1980s.

Apart from central bank assets, its investments abroad are estimated at more than \$50 billion. Such funds are believed to have remained intact, unlike those owned by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait who have been forced to withdraw a large part to finance the 1991 Gulf war effort and budget deficits.

"The UAE is still enjoying financial surpluses despite the decline in oil prices," a UAE bank manager told AFP. "This is because it is producing much more oil than before and the budget deficit is not real."

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

U.S. \$1.00 costs	1.3882/92	Canadian dollar	1.5855/65
	1.5855/65	Deutsche marks	1.7808/18
	1.7808/18	Dutch guilders	1.3393/03
	1.3393/03	French francs	32.65/69
	32.65/69	Italian lire	5,415/707
	5,415/707	Japanese yen	1585.87/3
	1585.87/3	Swedish crowns	100.65/75
	100.65/75	Norwegian crowns	7.7345/45
	7.7345/45	Danish crowns	6.9229/79
	6.9229/79		6.2315/65
	6.2315/65		\$1.5444/70
One sterling	\$1.5444/70		\$378.965/379.05
One ounce of gold	\$378.965/379.05		

Aramco's exports put at over \$50b in '93

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Exports by the Saudi state-run oil company Aramco stood at around 190 billion riyals (\$50.6 billion) in 1993, more than 40 per cent of the total sales of the Kingdom's biggest 1,000 firms, a United Arab Emirates (UAE) newspaper reported Wednesday.

Al Khaleej was quoting an official Saudi directory of the biggest 1,000 companies, which it said earned 458 billion riyals (\$122.1 billion) in 1993 from sales inside and outside the Gulf country.

It gave no figures on the net profits of Aramco, which now controls the Saudi energy sector after its acquisition of Samara company. But Saudi Arabia's revenues were estimated at \$45.1 billion in 1993 compared with \$48.4 billion in 1992.

Saudi Arabia is the biggest crude producer and exporter in the world, with an output of around eight million barrels per day.

A sharp decline in oil prices and production over the past decade more than halved its income and created a persistent deficit in its budget. This has forced it to trim expenditure and withdraw from its overseas reserves.

Oil prices averaged around \$16.33 in 1993 compared with \$18.44 in 1992 and as high as \$30 in 1981.

Weak prices this year have prompted Riyadh to slash spending by nearly 19 per cent to \$42.66 billion from \$52.53 billion in 1993. This cut the projected deficit to \$1.25 billion dollars from \$7.42 billion.

Al Khaleej said trade companies accounted for 32 per cent of the sales of those firms, except Aramco, while industrial companies accounted for 25 per cent and services firms for 22.6 per cent. The rest covered contracting, financing and agricultural companies.

Singapore rubber futures end on high note

SINGAPORE (AFP) — The erratic Japanese markets, which ended "limit-up," sent Singapore rubber futures prices soaring, with traders moving to the sidelines.

"The markets in Tokyo and Kobe finished on 'limit-up' of six yen, the maximum increase allowed in a single day, compared to the previous limit-up of five yen," a dealer said.

"Buyers were afraid to come in and were just unable to explain the sharp rise in Japan," the dealer said, adding that some Japanese buyers surprisingly were in the market here but found a lack of sellers.

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GOODWILL GAMES

Figure skating postponed

PETERSBURG, Russia — The start of the Goodwill Games figure skating competition was postponed to Thursday because of ice problems at the main rink.

Goodwill Games President Jack Kelly said the start of figure skating was being put off until Thursday because there still was not enough ice at the Yubileiny Sports Palace.

Kelly said organisers were making plans to shift the competition to the Ska rink, a half-mile away, just as they did at the last minute with short track speedskating on Tuesday night.

Kelly said there was virtually no chance of figure skating going ahead at Yubileiny.

"We're assuming that we will make the move," he said. "We don't believe there's any realistic chance they'll hold it at Yubileiny with the rate of ice. We don't want to take any risk with the skaters with this ice or anything that would make it less than an adequate ice surface."

It's the third time an event has had to be rescheduled because of problems at a venue. Swimming was put off for a day at the start of the 1984 Goodwill Games because of murky water in the pool.

The figure skating had been scheduled to run for four nights, from today through Saturday. Kelly said today's programmes will be moved to Thursday and Friday. Events will be doubled up either Friday or Saturday.

A move to the Ska venue would pose considerable logistical challenges. The Ska rink holds less than 3,000 people, compared to 7,000 at Yubileiny, and has no facilities for competition. TV cameras, lights and scoring equipment will all have to be set up in a hurry.

In addition organisers would have to deal with the

problem of tickets. The Yubileiny events were said to have been nearly sold out.

A heat wave, with temperatures in the 90s, a power outage and lack of air conditioning were blamed for the failure in getting the ice ready at Yubileiny. The venue had been used for boxing until last Saturday.

"The ice is being made very very slowly," Kelly said. "They have no explanation for it. The pipes show - 14 degrees and ice, instead of drying in a layer in 20-30 minutes, is taking 2 to 2 1/2 hours for each layer."

Kelly who had given assurances Tuesday that the ice would be ready in time for figure skating practice today, said Yubileiny officials had misled organisers about the rate of ice-making and suggested some people might soon be out of a job.

"Their specialists appear not to be specialists," he said. "They had a much more difficult problem getting heat out of the building than they let on. Their experts were not entirely forthcoming with the difficulties they were having."

"I know that the city officials are particularly disturbed.... They feel particularly betrayed.... There are still some vestiges of the old (Soviet) system, where it's better not to give any bad news. This is the difficulties of trying to cope with circumstances in a nearly emerging country."

"I don't think there's any question that the guy who's running Yubileiny will be running Yubileiny and more."

Kelly said the conditions of the ice at Ska would be good. The skaters are not unhappy with Ska, he said. "They've seen practice on it. They say it's acceptable ice to them, the speedskaters thought it was a little soft, and figure skaters want it soft. It's really pretty good figure skating ice."

Matt Rensinger, a spokes-

man for U.S. Figure Skating, concurred.

"I don't think it will really denigrate the competition for the skaters," he said. "The positive side is they've practised there for two days. The skaters have been very pleased with the ice at Ska."

Pensinger said this was the first time a major figure skating event has been moved.

"We've had various equipment problems, but not anything that impacted directly on the event like this has," he said. "Everyone realised early on that there may be some other factors that they weren't going to have control over here."

Short track speedskating had been scheduled to start at 2 p.m. local time Tuesday at Yubileiny. First, organisers rescheduled the start to 8 p.m. But an hour before the new time, they decided to switch the events to the Ska rink.

Shuttle buses ferried spectators to the new venue, while organisers lagged computers, timing devices and other equipment from Yubileiny to the Ska rink.

The start was delayed by another 90 minutes while officials installed pads along the boards and stapled advertising signs over them. A Russian official, dressed in suit and tie, used a hand saw to cut a starting line into the ice.

Meanwhile, the public address announcer tried to keep the crowd entertained.

"Only in Russia could you move from one venue to another in 30 minutes," he said. "Way to go Russia."

U.S. short track skater Andy Gabel, who won a bronze in the 1,000 metre, took the change in venue in stride.

"They're trying," he said. "You can tell this whole thing is new for them. It's kind of frustrating. You can get all mad about it. But it's not going to change anything."



Algerian athlete Noureddine Morceli waves while posing in front of the time clock after setting a new world record (AFP photo)

After setting new 3,000m world record Morceli looking ahead to more records

MONTE CARLO (R) — Noureddine Morceli says he can break every world record from the 800 to the 5,000 metres before he hangs up his running shoes.

And on the evidence of his staggering run why he set a new 3,000 metres world record at the Herculis Grand Prix Tuesday night, it would be hard to find anyone to disagree with him.

The 24-year-old Algerian, who already holds the world mile and 1,500 metres records, demolished Kenyan Moses Kiptanui's 3,000 record of seven minutes 28.96 seconds when he sped round seven and a half laps of the Louis II Stadium track in 7:25.11.

He ran the last lap in only 55 seconds and earned himself a place in the record books alongside such illustrious names as Michel Jazy of France, Kip Keino and Henry Rono of Kenya and Said Aouita of Morocco, who have also held the mark.

Morceli's performance came one day before the 20th anniversary of another 3,000

metres world record — the 7:35.2 set by Britain's Brendan Foster Aug. 3, 1974.

It is a measure of Morceli's greatness and how far the event has moved in two decades that Foster would have finished 50 metres behind the Algerian Tuesday.

"It was a perfect night, there was a very nice breeze, just perfect for a record," said the Algerian after setting the sixth official new world record of 1994.

Morceli believes he is capable of holding every middle-distance record in the book and repeated that claim Tuesday.

"I can break 10 world records," he said. "Personally I think I can run the mile in 3:34 and improve all the others up to 5,000 metres."

His current mile record is 10 seconds outside that predicted time, but his self-belief mirrors that of Aouita, another North African runner who often made outrageous claims — and then achieved them.

Aouita set five world records during his heyday in the

1980s: The 1,500m, 2,000m, 3,000m, two miles and 5,000m.

The one that still stands is the 2,000 metres, and it must only be a matter of time before that mark, set in 1987, falls, probably to Morceli.

Tuesday's attempt was superbly stage-managed. A year ago at the same meeting, Morceli missed breaking the same record by just 0.28 of a second.

This time he began more cautiously with early pacesetter Joseph Chesire of Kenya taking him through the first 1,000 metres bang on schedule in two minutes 28 seconds, and Moroccan

Mahmed Choumassi guiding him through 2,000 metres less than a second over their target time of five minutes.

With Ethiopian Haile Gebreselasse, the 5,000 metres world record holder, pushing him along for the next lap, Morceli gradually accelerated away to run the last 550 metres against the clock.

He hit the bell at six minutes 30 seconds, knowing he

needed to run the last lap in under 58 seconds, and never faltered as he crossed the line 55 seconds later. The time on the trackside clock which initially showed 7:25.13, was then rounded down to an even more impressive 7:25.11.

A week ago Morceli became embroiled in a row at the Goodwill Games for using pacemakers in a championship race when he set the year's fastest mile time of 3:48.67. This time there was no argument about the pacemaking, an integral part of the grand prix circus. There was just talk of the next world record.

Morceli's sights are now set on Gebreselasse's two-month-old 5,000 metres record of 12:56.96, set in Hengelo, in the Netherlands June 4.

Only Gebreselasse and Aouita have ever run the distance in under 13 minutes. Morceli intends to join their exclusive club at the Weltklasse meeting in Zurich Aug. 17.

IOC to consider including taekwondo in Olympics

By Rana Hussein
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has told His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan that it will consider including taekwondo in future Olympic events.

In a letter sent to Prince Hassan, IOC President Juan Samaranch thanked His Royal Highness for a letter sent earlier requesting that taekwondo become an Olympic sport.

According to Majed Mansour, the secretary of the Jordan Taekwondo Federation (JTF), Prince Hassan, who is the chairman of the Higher Council of Defence Sports, sent the letter on June 26 asking the IOC to consider the issue.

"The IOC president said the proposal has been listed on the committee's agenda and will be discussed in its next meeting due in September," Mr. Mansour told the Jordan Times.

"The reply to the prince's letter was to thank His Highness and to assure that his support of the sport has been duly noted," said Mr. Mansour.

Since the JTF's establishment in 1979, Jordanian taekwondo players have collected 359 Arab, Asian and international medals, including three Olympic medals during the 1988 Seoul Olympics and three more in the Barcelona Games in 1992.

In the 12th Asian Taekwondo Championship held in Manila last April, Jordan occupied the fifth place.

Detective demands retraction of claims he framed Simpson

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A detective who testified that he found a bloody glove at O.J. Simpson's estate will sue unless Simpson's attorneys retract claims that he planted the evidence, his lawyer said.

A July 25 article in the New Yorker magazine quoted unnamed leading members of Simpson's defence team as saying they might argue that Mark Fuhrman found two gloves at the murder scene, then planted one outside Simpson's mansion.

On Monday, Fuhrman's attorney, Robert Tourtelot, demanded a retraction and apology from Simpson's attorney Robert Shapiro for "measurable" pain and anguish suffered by the officer and his family.

"You can help ease the humiliation and hurt they continue to experience," Tourtelot said in the letter to Shapiro. A copy was faxed to the Associated Press.

Fuhrman denied planting the glove. Tourtelot said he would sue Simpson and Shapiro after Simpson's double-murder trial to avoid compromising the criminal case.

The allegations "are not only false and libelous, they are simply outrageous and despicable," Tourtelot wrote.

Shapiro denied making the comments after the New Yorker article appeared. He did not return a telephone message Monday.

Simpson, 47, has pleaded innocent to the June 12 slaying murders of Nicole Brown Simpson, 35, and Ronald Goldman, 25. He remains jailed without bail.

Amunike transfer invalid, according to Egyptian club

CAIRO (R) — Nigerian striker Amunike's transfer deal with Egyptian club Zamalek is invalid because some minor conditions were not met.

Amunike, the 22-year-old, scored two goals in the World Cup, signed for Duisburg before the finals, but changed his mind and has signed a contract with Sporting Lisbon and travelled to Portugal Tuesday.

But a spokesman for the Egyptian Soccer Federation said Wednesday they had sent the player's international registration card to FIFA, the international soccer federation.

Egyptian club Zamalek, who are backing the Nigerian's move to Lisbon which will earn them more money, claim the transfer was not completed and the federation had acted wrongly.

"The Egyptian federation sent the decision without consulting with us first, a move we consider as illegal," Zamalek chairman Galal Ibrahim told Reuters Wednesday.

"Our agreement with Duisburg was not completed because the club failed to fulfil our demands. We put

three clear conditions which were not met."

He said Zamalek had demanded a written commitment from Amunike saying they wanted to play for the German club and agreeing to waive all financial dues from Zamalek. The third condition was an \$800,000 transfer fee.

"Duisburg accepted the third condition and promised us \$800,000, but ignored the other two which we consider vital, and without it we consider the contract invalid," Ibrahim explained.

Ibrahim said he had instructed his bank to freeze any money from the German club until a final decision is taken by FIFA, which he said was scheduled for Aug. 25. Zamalek have been offered \$900,000 from Sporting Lisbon.

"We have accepted Sporting's offer, which is better for us, and we have signed a contract with them," said Ibrahim.

Sporting chairman Jose Sousa Cintra signed a contract with Zamalek in the presence of Amunike.

"Amunike told me the deal with Duisburg was under pressure from Nigeria's Dutch World Cup Clements Westerhof. He signed in my presence in Cairo for Sporting," Ibrahim said.

Colak will return to Turkey in 15 days

ANKARA, Turkey — Turkish soccer star Hakan Colak said Tuesday he would return to Turkey to face his jail sentence in 10 to 15 days.

Colak flew to Macedonia last Wednesday following his conviction for smuggling a luxury car, 24 hours before a ban was imposed on him leaving the country.

It led to speculation that he would evade imprisonment by staying abroad.

"I did not run away. I will return to my country as soon as possible," Colak told the Anatolia news agency in a telephone interview. "I will face whatever punishment I am given."

Europe's leading scorer in the 1987-88 season and winner of the Golden Boot Award faces 22 months in prison and a fine of 72 million lire (\$23,000) when he returns to Turkey. He has been banned from professional soccer for life.

Colak said he had left Turkey in order to represent his country one last time by playing for a World Cup team in Russia in St. Petersburg Aug. 7. He was dropped from the world team following last week's developments.

He has been replaced by Turkish striker Oguz Cetin.

Klinsmann denies he will be paid per goal

BONN (R) — German striker Jurgen Klinsmann has slammed British newspaper reports that he would pick up a cheque for every goal at his new English club Tottenham and that had a reputation as a "conman" in the penalty area.

"That is just rubbish they made up," Klinsmann Tuesday said in an interview with the German news agency SID.

"Do you really believe that I would make my salary depend on the number of goals? I need to learn a bit about the English media but the German journalists should not believe everything they read in the British tabloids."

Calling Klinsmann a "dive bomber" for a tendency for theatricals in the box, the tabloid Daily Mirror said Klinsmann would be earning £1,000 (\$1,538) for every goal he scored.

Even the conservative Times said Klinsmann was one of the most hated figures in world football, saying he was "regarded first and foremost as football's supreme conman."

Klinsmann, Germany's best player in their disappointing World Cup campaign, agreed last week to

join Tottenham from French side Monaco in one of the biggest surprises of the pre-season transfer deals.

But the former Internazionale Milan and VfB Stuttgart striker has faced critical headlines in the British media since the deal was announced.

Asked about the reports that English referees would be less likely to be fooled by diving in the area than in the rest of Europe, Klinsmann said: "I can only repeat the comment (I made about the money reports)."

"Anyway, the English defenders are hard but they are not unfair. The defenders in France seem more unfair than in England."

Klinsmann's move to England came as a surprise to the German football world, during the World Cup the former apprentice baker said he had turned down an offer from England's Everton because he wanted to play in Italy or Spain.

But the 30-year-old, forward said he was impressed with the way Tottenham chairman Alan Sugar had worked to clinch the deal.

"Things happened after the World Cup that I never thought would happen," he said. "The Tottenham chairman kept his cards on the table in a way that I have never experienced before."

Lawyers: Jordan's father may have faked death

LUMBERTON, N.C. (AP) — Michael Jordan's father may have faked his own death, defence lawyers in the murder case have argued.

Attorneys for Daniel Andre Green, one of two men charged with killing Jordan last year, said in a motion that dire financial problems may have led the sports superstar's father to fake his own death and drop out of sight.

James Jordan was "in very precarious financial position with the IRS, the state department of revenue, banks, credit card providers and other creditors," according to papers filed last Friday in Robeson County superior court.

"It is not unreasonable or unrealistic that Mr. Jordan may have purposely and voluntarily disappeared and that the body which was discovered is not the body of James Jordan," public defender Angus Thompson II and lawyer Woodberry Bowen claimed in one of several motions filed on behalf of Green.

Jordan was reported killed last summer as he napped in his car by the side of a Robeson County highway. A body found in a South Carolina creek was cremated by the time authorities suspected it was Jordan's. It later was linked to Jordan through dental records.

Investigators said the elder Jordan was the victim of an apparent robbery attempt.

Michael Jordan would not talk to reporters Tuesday night in Nashville, Tennessee, following a doubleheader between his baseball team, the Birmingham Barons, and the Nashville Sounds.

Green and Larry Martin Demery are charged with first-degree murder, armed robbery and conspiracy to commit armed robbery. They are being held in the Robeson County jail without bond.

In another motion, Green's lawyers say state officials are withholding evidence that could prove their client's innocence.

The evidence includes financial records from James Jordan's Charlotte-based company — J.V.L. Enterprises Inc. — and six credit cards.

One motion describes more than \$40,000 in federal tax liens against J.V.L. Enterprises for unpaid employee withholdings. Another motion describes undelivered and uncashed paychecks in December 1992.

Other motions suggest that "James Jordan was involved in gambling to excess and beyond his means," and refer to "what was probably an embarrassing paternity suit or support" filed against Jordan in Illinois.

Thompson and Bowen also said state officials were withholding evidence, particularly dental records and medical reports.

Attorneys and investigators have been ordered not to discuss the case before it comes to trial.

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دليل في ليد

Saleh visits Aden, declares it winter capital of Yemen

ADEN (R) — President Ali Abdullah Saleh returned to Aden on Wednesday for the first time since his forces captured the former southern secessionist bastion four weeks ago and declared it Yemen's new winter capital.

"Aden will be the winter capital of the Republic of Yemen starting this year," Mr. Saleh said in a speech to a cheering crowd of hundreds of invited guests.

Mr. Saleh told the politicians, officials and businessmen who had come to greet him that the two months of civil war that ended on July 7 had cost the country \$4 billion plus \$3.5 billion in damage to basic infrastructure and services.

He said that Aden, sacked by looters after the war and badly damaged in weeks of bombing and siege, would be the base of all government institutions in the winter months.

"This decision has been taken by the political leadership in the best interests of the nation and confirms the importance of Aden as a major port and a free trade zone and the economic capital of Yemen," Mr. Saleh told the crowd.

The fall of Aden marked the end of the war between mainly northern forces loyal to Mr. Saleh and southern secessionists led by his former vice-president, Ali Salem Al-Baidh.

It was Mr. Saleh's first visit to his southern rival's bastion in nearly one-and-a-half years characterised by conflict over power sharing which led to all-out war on May 4.

Mr. Saleh, who argued that

he fought the war in order to preserve the Yemen union forged in 1990, said he wanted to restore normal life to Aden and make it "a model city for the whole of Yemen."

"We will give Aden the highest priority to lift it out of its problems...to return it to its position as one of the world's principal free trade ports," he said.

His remarks were meant to cheer the 350,000 people of the war-battered city that continues to suffer severe shortages of food and water and where the collapse of basic services such as sanitation has caused an outbreak of cholera.

He told Aden's citizens they had been led into a secessionist war "by outlaws who considered themselves custodians of this city."

Mr. Saleh blamed Mr. Baidh's Yemen Socialist Party (YSP), which ruled the former South Yemen before the union, for the war.

Mr. Saleh charged the YSP was responsible for the suffering of the people of Aden, saying its leaders should have given up the fight once it was clear they were losing the war.

Mr. Baidh and YSP ministers who backed the breakaway state fled the country just before the end of the war and have taken refuge abroad. They are on a list of 16 people wanted by Sanaa for trial.

Mr. Saleh, responding to a list of demands submitted by a spokesman for southern businessmen, said he had repeated an order to pull all Sanaa government troops out of Aden and into barracks outside the city.

Sanaa seeks extradition of exiles

YEMEN'S government on Wednesday reiterated that 16 political leaders on a wanted list were not covered by a general amnesty granted to southern exiles and asked competent authorities to seek their extradition.

"The cabinet wants to clarify the general amnesty law does not apply in any way to those against whom an arrest warrant was issued by the prosecutor-general," a statement after the cabinet meeting said.

The warrant was issued in May shortly after the start of the civil war against politicians led by southern leader Ali Salem Al-Baidh.

Political sources said the statement was meant to clarify ambiguity arising from a speech by President Ali Abdullah Saleh on Sunday in which he named only four leaders saying he would ask countries sheltering them to hand them back for trial.

The four men named were Mr. Baidh, the former prime minister of the secessionist state, Haidar Abu Bakr Al-Attas, its former vice-president Abdul Rahman Al-Jifri and former Defence Minister Haidham Qassem Taher.

The statement, reported by Sanaa Radio, asked "competent authorities to carry out necessary contacts with the countries at which those wanted had sought refuge for their extradition to stand trial."

The cabinet urged southern exiles who backed the rebellion to return home quickly before an Aug. 15 deadline.

The exact number of Yemenis who would benefit from the amnesty is not known but diplomats estimate that it covers between 10,000 and 15,000 people.



MEETING PRESS: His Majesty King Hussein speaks to reporters upon his return home Wednesday after visits to Washington and London (see page one) (Photo by Youssef Al-Arian)

Washington and London (see page one) (Photo by Youssef Al-Arian)

Iraq: Kuwait misleads world on PoWs

CAIRO (Agencies) — Iraq's Arab League mission in Cairo accused Kuwait on Wednesday of misleading world public opinion on Kuwaitis believed held by Baghdad, saying the emirate had refused to let some of its citizens home after the Gulf war.

"Iraq will not succumb to pressures by opposing sides whose concern may not lie in solving the problem but in using it for political reasons," a statement by the Iraqi mission said.

Kuwait said Baghdad still holds about 600 of its nationals detained after Iraq's 1990 invasion of the emirate.

The statement said Kuwaiti authorities allowed only 707 of their citizens to return home from a total of 4,314 held by Baghdad. It did not say whether the prisoners whose return Kuwait demands were among them.

After the 1991 war Kuwait refused to let in stateless Arabs — known as bedoun — cross its borders from Iraq.

The mission listed what it

said were instances of Kuwait refusing suggestions from other Arab states to intervene and solve the issue. "Iraq has cooperated with international agencies and different parties intending to resolve this issue without abusing it for political reasons," it added.

The statement said 6,528 foreigners and Kuwaitis were released through the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Iraq has repeatedly denied the presence of any Kuwaitis on its territory. But on July 1 it promised to investigate the fate of people Kuwait says are still missing. Kuwait has asked Iraq for a report on their fate by the end of August.

Tuesday was the fourth anniversary of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. A U.S.-led multinational alliance ousted the Iraqis. Kuwait said "on Sunday the U.N. Gulf crisis trade blockade should be maintained until all captive Kuwaitis are freed."

Iraq boasted on Wednesday of having made 39 missile

strikes on the "Zionist entity," the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said in a commentary to mark the fourth anniversary of the invasion.

A report monitored in Cyprus paid tribute to the Iraqi military industry praising the development of the Al Hussein missile, a locally-modified version of the Soviet-built Scud with a range of 700 kilometres.

The missiles were used to bomb Israel and 43 were also fired on Saudi Arabia.

But INA did not mention Iraq's current armaments programme.

U.S. President Bill Clinton, marking the fourth anniversary of the invasion of Kuwait, said Tuesday economic sanctions will remain in place because Iraq poses "an unusual and extraordinary threat" to U.S. security.

"Four years after the invasion, a pattern of defiance persists," Mr. Clinton said in a report to Congress.

The president said the Iraqi regime continues to violate human rights and ignores United Nations resolutions

aimed at eliminating Iraqi weapons of mass destruction and achieving other goals.

Mr. Clinton cited Iraq's refusal to:

- Recognise its international boundaries with Kuwait;
- Account for Kuwaiti citizens who were detained and remain missing during the occupation;
- End its alleged sponsorship of assassinations in Lebanon and northern Iraq;
- Cooperate with weapons inspectors; and
- End human rights violations.

"The policies and actions of the Saddam Hussein regime continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States," Mr. Clinton said.

"Because of Iraq's failure to comply fully with the (United Nations) resolutions, the United States will continue to apply economic sanctions to deter it from threatening peace and stability in the region," the president said.

5 French killed in Algiers; Juppe and Pasqua fly in

ALGIERS (Agencies) — An unprecedented shootout on Wednesday between French military guards and suspected Islamic insurgents trying to plant a car bomb left three guards and two French consular workers dead.

France's defence and foreign ministers arrived in Algiers for urgent consultations with the military-backed government on stepping up security for the remaining French nationals in the country.

The deaths brought the number of foreigners assassinated in Algeria since last September to 56. As usual, no one claimed responsibility. Authorities referred to "terrorists," their usual term for Islamic gunmen.

The shootout was the first between the gunmen and foreign guards protecting their nationals in the increasingly dangerous capital. It was unknown whether any of the gunmen was killed or wounded.

According to Algerian authorities, at least four gunmen in a car attacked a French guard post near a

school in 'Ain Allah, a high-security residential area southwest of Algiers. Two French guards were killed.

The French foreign ministry reported that a second shootout broke out inside the compound, home to most of France's diplomatic personnel. A French guard was killed and another wounded. The two consular workers were killed leaving their house to go to work.

The gunmen had tried to place a car bomb outside a building, said Catherine Colonna, a French foreign ministry deputy spokeswoman. It was safely defused.

It was unclear if the booty-trapped car was the same one used to enter the area, or how the gunmen fled.

A source close to Algerian intelligence said Wednesday's assailants were disguised as elite "ninja" commandos and drove a paramilitary-style patrol vehicle in front of the booty-trapped car.

The high-risk complex is guarded by France's elite gendarmerie intervention group (GIGN).

The French government, condemning the "barbaric act," dispatched foreign and defence ministers Alain Juppe and Francois Leotard to Algiers after the bloodiest single killing of French nationals since armed Muslim fundamentalists warned foreigners last year to leave Algeria or face death.

Mr. Juppe said on arrival that he had come "to investigate with leaders of the French community, in particular our ambassador, on further measures to take and which are the French government's responsibility, to provide the best possible security."

Mr. Leotard earlier said about 70 French nationals lived on compound and that the attack had been planned as a car-bomb but that the "booty-trapped car was defused just in time."

Mr. Juppe also planned to talk to Algerian authorities about security, he said, after the interior ministry here issued a statement expressing "deep revulsion" at the "odious attack."

3 shot dead in riot-hit Nigerian capital

LAGOS (R) — Police in strike-bound Lagos on Wednesday shot dead at least three pro-democracy demonstrators demanding the release of presidential claimant Moshood Abiola, witnesses said.

Mr. Abiola's trial on treason charges, which has plunged Nigeria into turmoil and sparked a general strike, was adjourned in the capital Abuja on Wednesday until Aug. 16.

Bola Tinubu, a former senator, said demonstrators paraded the body of one of their dead colleagues around the palace of the traditional ruler of Lagos city, Oba Oyekan.

Mr. Tinubu said the protesters also reported that two other demonstrators were shot dead by the police.

"They wanted the Oba to know that the police are killing our people," Mr. Tinubu said.

Another witness told Reuters he saw two corpses along the Oshodi expressway in mainland Lagos.

Turkey puts Kurd MPs on trial; raids kill 150

ANKARA (Agencies) — Turkey put six Kurdish lawmakers on trial Wednesday on charges of separatism and threatening state security, as it reported killing 150 rebels in air raids.

The court rejected an appeal from defence lawyers that the case be dismissed because it violated "the constitution and all international laws."

The six, on trial in the State Security Court, have been under arrest since their parliamentary immunity was lifted in March and face possible death sentences.

There was heavy security at the court and police dispersed a crowd of several hundred supporters who had gathered outside for the arrival of the defendants.

The six were stripped of their membership of parliament after Turkey's constitutional court dissolved their pro-Kurdish Democracy Party (DEP) in June.

Five of the ex-MPs belong to the DEP, while the sixth is a former DEP member turned independent.

They are accused of forming a political wing within parliament of the Kurdish Labour Party (PKK), which

has led a 10-year-old rebellion in southern Turkey, and of having campaigned for an independent Kurdish state in eastern and southeastern Turkey.

The defendants are Hatip Dicle, Ahmet Turk, Orhan Dogan, Sirri Sakik, and Leyla Zana, members of the dissolved DEP, and Mahmut Alinak, the independent who resigned from the DEP.

Meanwhile, army spokesman Dogu Silahcioglu said that warplanes had destroyed a PKK training camp across the border in northern Iraq on Tuesday, killing more than 120 guerrillas.

Another cross-border air raid on Sunday left 30 rebels dead and 44 wounded, he said.

"More than 120 bandits were destroyed in air action by Turkish warplanes on August 2 on a separatist training camp in the Hakurik region," Col. Silahcioglu said.

Hakurik lies 25 kilometres south of the Turkish border province of Hakkari.

In an earlier air raid on July 31, at least 30 PKK guerrillas were killed in Sinat-Haftanin region in northern Iraq, close to Turkey's Uludere border town.

PLO wants \$40 million from donors for power transfer

Arafat says he is in despair

CAIRO (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) may need up to \$40 million from donor nations to finance expected new responsibilities in the West Bank until it works out a system of taxation, a PLO official said Wednesday.

Nabil Shaath, chief Palestinian delegate to peace talks here, made the statement as Israeli and PLO officials ended three weeks of discussions on widening the authority of Palestinians in the Israel-occupied territories. The talks will continue next week.

The negotiations on so-called early empowerment were called for in the May 4 Israeli-PLO accord on Palestinian autonomy in the Gaza Strip and Jericho.

It specified the two sides negotiate an early transfer of power over health, education, welfare, tourism and finance in the rest of the West Bank.

Major General Danny Rothchild, chief Israeli delegate, said negotiators have worked out a budget of \$50 million for the five areas during the first half-year.

"We expect there might be a shortfall of \$25 million to \$40 million," Dr. Shaath said, adding that donors might be asked to cover that amount in the first six months while a taxation system was developed.

He said some of the money already was included in estimates of donor nations but the PLO must ensure the amount would be available.

Donor states have pledged \$2.4 billion over the next 10 years for Palestinian development, but they have insisted the PLO develop a plan for financial accountability before delivering much of the money.

Negotiators say they have completed draft papers on health, education and welfare. Gen. Rothchild pointed out a problem with tourism that shows how the talks — like earlier negotiations on the Gaza-Jericho

plan — bog down in detail.

Noting that many tourist sites were also archaeological sites, he said a line must be drawn between the two since authority over archaeology was not yet being transferred.

"There has to be a clear distinction between authorities or the archaeologists and the tourism people will fight each other every day," he said.

Dr. Shaath said he hoped the talks could be completed in time for the transfer of power to start Aug. 15, but Gen. Rothchild refused to say when negotiations would end.

"My experience is ... you know you're finished when you're finished," he said.

Dr. Shaath also said Israel will release 150 Palestinian women prisoners on Friday and has promised to set free between 100 and 150 Palestinians who are in poor health.

Dr. Shaath said the release were agreed when he met Israeli Police Minister Moshe Shahal in Tel Aviv on Monday.

"They gave us a promise to release 10 women prisoners and they are going to be released on Friday. They also promised us that between 100 and 150 sick prisoners will be released," Dr. Shaath told reporters in Cairo.

"They promised other things, including to improve the conditions for prisoners," he added.

Asked if the batch of sick prisoners included Sheikh Ahmad Yassin, the founder of Hamas, Dr. Shaath said: "No, not yet." He did not say whether the Israelis had given a date for freeing the sick prisoners.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat warned in remarks published Wednesday that further delays in implementing the self-rule accord could reignite Palestinian unrest.

He also blamed the Jewish state for stirring up trouble over Jerusalem and described as "a waste of time" the negotiations under way in

Cairo.

"I am ringing warning bells so that you understand that the present situation can't continue," Mr. Arafat said in remarks to Israeli peace activists published by the Hebrew daily Haaretz.

He noted that Palestinian workers had protested violently last month over delays in crossing to their jobs in Israel and warned: "This will happen in many other places. It will spread and explode."

Mr. Arafat also said he was in despair over lack of aid and rifts with Israel over the future of Jerusalem.

In a rare interview with an Israeli newspaper, the daily Haaretz, he accused Israel of driving a wedge between Jordan and the Palestinians and said its Shin Bet secret police were plotting to foil the Israeli-PLO deal launching self-rule.

"I am in despair," Mr. Arafat said.

"The moment of truth has arrived, and alarm bells are ringing. I am finding it harder and harder to go on in this situation, and the explosion is liable to come."

"Every day we are treated to a new dose of humiliation, and each is worse than the last."

Mr. Arafat said violence of the sort that erupted at the Gaza Strip border crossing last month would recur if steps were not taken by Israel and donor countries to deliver promised aid.

Mr. Arafat asserted that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's invitation to King Hussein to visit Jerusalem violated the Israeli-PLO peace deal.

"Does Rabin think he can instigate a rift between the Jordanians and the Palestinians?" Mr. Arafat asked.

"Rabin knows that it's my right to invite King Hussein," he said. "If (King) Hussein comes, let him come, but this is a violation of the agreement."

Syria and Iran slam Israel on weapons

NICOSIA (AP) — Syria and Iran on Wednesday slammed Israel for acquiring advanced weapons, saying this would contribute to regional instability rather than bolster the chances for Middle East peace.

Syria's government-run Tishrin daily said in an editorial: "Israel's adherence to its armament programmes will keep the region unstable and will eventually increase Israel's arrogance."

Iran, Syria's close friend and a vehement opponent of Arab-Israeli peace talks, said American leaders talk of peace in the Middle East, but contribute to tension by providing Israel with advanced weaponry.

Israel on Monday took delivery of six of 50 surplus U.S. Air Force F-16s. They were promised as part of the Clinton administration's commitment to Israel to maintain its technological superiority over Arab forces.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher is expected to launch a new shuttle mission to the region.

Syria's state-run Al-Thawra daily urged the United States to take a "clear stance" on the negotiations and pressure Israel to reformulate its policies and commit itself to "the prerequisites of the peace process."

Official Tehran Radio said that arms supplies to Israel "contradict claims by U.S. leaders that they want peace and stability in the Middle East."

"Supplying advanced weapons to the Zionist regime intensifies the arms race in the region and endangers its peace and security," the radio said in a commentary.

The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, said the F-16s were supplied in line with Washington's intention to create a new regional order with Israel "as its cornerstone."

COLUMN

Kono is richest minister in Japan

TOKYO (AFP) — Foreign Minister Yohhei Kono is the richest Japanese minister while Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama ranked 14th among the 21 cabinet members, an official report showed Tuesday. Mr. Kono, who is president of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and also deputy prime minister, held assets worth 1.38 billion yen (\$13.8 million) as of June 30, the report said. Assets held by Mr. Murayama, chairman of the Social Democratic Party (SDP), were valued at 92 million yen. National Land Agency director general Kiyoshi Ozawa from the LDP was the second-richest minister with assets worth 547 million yen. He was followed by LDP member and Science and Technology Agency Director General Makiko Tanaka with 280 million yen, while Chief Cabinet Secretary Kozo Igarashi from the SDP was the fourth-richest with 233 million yen. The Murayama cabinet's average asset comprising land, houses, deposits and securities was valued at 195 million yen, larger than 170-million-yen average for the cabinet of his predecessor Tsutomu Hata.

Low-fat diets 'do not equal longevity'

CHICAGO (AFP) — While much-hyped as healthy, low-fat diets extend average human life expectancy by only a few months, according to a study released Tuesday. But the study by the American Medical Association's Archives of Internal Medicine said quitting smoking had a more pronounced effect on longevity, extending life expectancies by 2.5 to 4.5 years for men and 2.5 to 3.5 years for women. Cutting back on fats to the level recommended by the U.S. government — 10 percent of calories consumed — adds an estimated 11 days to three months to a healthy man's life, and three days to two months to that of a healthy woman, the study based on U.S. and Canadian health statistics said. Excess dietary fats can boost cholesterol levels.

Hanging around in Austria

KLAGENFURT, Austria (AFP) — A 62-year-old woman was discovered Tuesday after spending three days stuck in a tree half way up a cliff, local police said. The woman was found by an Austrian couple out walking in the mountains in the southern Austrian province of Carinthia. They were alerted by the woman's cries for help. The woman, who was originally from Germany but who had worked in the region for many years, was lifted by helicopter and taken to hospital, suffering from shock but with no serious injuries. It appears the woman had been walking in the mountains Sunday when she fell over the cliff. The tree broke her fall.

Nursing home goes batty

OLDENZAAL, Netherlands (AFP) — Dozens of bats invaded a nursing home overnight in this eastern Dutch town, forcing the evacuation of an elderly lady, police said. Attendees were alerted by the resident after the bats swarmed into her room, and afraid to go near the creatures, they called the police. The lady was moved to another room. The bats were shot out the same window by which they had entered.

China's boomtown not flush with public toilets

HONG KONG (R) — A shortage of public toilets is drawing public fire in Shenzhen, China's most developed city, the Beijing-controlled China News Agency (CNA) said Wednesday. There are only 31 public toilets in the entire 327.5-sq-km (126-sq-mile) Shenzhen special economic zone bordering Hong Kong, while in the capital, Beijing, there are 35 public toilets per square kilometre (0.4 sq mile), the Hong Kong-based CNA said.